CANADA'S

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INSIDE!

TIPS FROM **the pros**

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- kids' rooms
- the best blues



colour you can live with

HUNDREDS OF **HUES FOR EVERY ROOM**

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IDEAS TO STEAL

8 PAINT PROJECTS

LOW-COST WAYS TO REFRESH YOUR HOME

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Is now the right time for you to buy a new home?

Knowing the facts can help you decide.

Purchasing a home is one of the most significant investments you will make in your lifetime. So it's understandable if you find it daunting – even if you aren't a first-time homebuyer. There are important decisions to be made, ranging from finding a home you can comfortably afford to which mortgage solutions can help you save the most money.

By following a few simple suggestions and seeking out some expert advice, you can ensure that your future in your new home is more comfortable and more financially secure.

Know what you can afford

Buyers often don't accurately estimate how much they can afford to pay for their home. One of the first steps in buying your home is getting pre-approved. With a pre-approved mortgage, you will better understand how much you can afford and what your payments will be. This will help ensure that you don't over-extend yourself. A pre-approved mortgage will also identify you as a serious buyer, which can help in your negotiations with sellers and their agents. The online "How Much Can You Afford" calculator at www.rbcroyalbank.com/mortgages can help you determine what you can afford.

Lock in your rate

With a pre-approved mortgage from RBC Royal Bank®, your interest rate is guaranteed for 120 days[1] or until mortgage funds are advanced, whichever is sooner. If rates go up during this period, you are protected. If rates are lower when mortgage funds are advanced, you will automatically get the lower rate[2] for the term selected. That means you can focus your efforts on finding the home you love instead of worrying about whether you are getting the best rate.

Explore your down payment options

If your down payment is less than 20% of the lower of the purchase price or appraised value, the mortgage must be insured by a mortgage default insurer. You can pay the mortgage default insurance premium up front or it can be added to the amount you borrow. Under the federal government's homebuyers plan, first-time homebuyers



can also use up to $25,000 in RRSP savings per person for the down payment[3]. A mortgage specialist can help you determine which down payment options are right for you.

Choose a payment schedule that suits you

Paying off your mortgage sooner will save you money, while increasing your amortization period gives you more room to manage your payments. But it's important to understand the costs. A 35-year amortization can increase your interest costs by as much as 50% over the life of your mortgage compared to a 25-year amortization. No matter which amortization period you select, you can always re-evaluate it when you renew your mortgage down the road.

Flexible payment options help you achieve your goals at your own pace

We offer money-saving options such as doubling your payments and the option to increase your monthly payments by up to 10% once every 12 months – all of which can be combined to help you prepay as much as 20% or more of your original mortgage balance each year.

You're ready

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PHOTOGRAPHY Virginia Macdonald









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back TO BLACK

Is white a colour? That was the topic of discussion at photographer Edward Pond's studio the other day. Design editor Christine Hanlon, art director Susan Rogers and I were debating colour theory basics as we were going through the lineup of exquisite products that Christine had brought to the shoot for "Colour Variations" (page 120). After a lively debate, I turned to science to uncover the truth about colour theory. (Don't worry, this won't hurt a bit!) In 1704, Sir Isaac Newton surmised that white isn't really a colour – in fact, it's a blend of all the colours of the spectrum. How so, you ask? White is actually a total reflection of all radiant light energies. If we believe that to be true, why then, when I decide to paint a room white, do I have to choose from thousands of options of, er, white?

All rules and theories aside, the question for me isn't *what* colour you use or how *many*, but *how* you actually use it. I've gone through a series of obsessions about colour in my own decor over the past decade, some more memorable than others. There was the year I bought everything and anything that was a specific hue of raspberry pink, and then my mini adoration of robin's egg blue (that only lasted a month). Most recently, I made a foray of into all things French blue (inspired by my purchase of a floor-model sofa at Crate and Barrel). My one constant is having a touch of black in every room. And even though I know Sir Isaac would say that black is the absence of colour because it indicates a complete absorption of all wavelengths of light energy, you know what? I don't care. Decorating "Erin-style" is playing by your own rules, and for me that means using touches of black throughout my space to create a sense of balance and drama.

Erin

Erin McLaughlin
erin@styleathome.com

TIPS FOR **USING ACCENT COLOURS** "ERIN-STYLE"

1 Always start with a **neutral backdrop.** That makes it easier to change the look if you get tired of the accent colour you've chosen.
2 Choose an **accent colour that you love,** not one that's trendy; for example, you'll never see me decorate with yellow because, well, I just don't particularly love yellow!
3 Use your accent colour throughout your room in **accessories.** My go-to list includes throw cushions, lampshades and side tables.

EASY WAYS TO ADD A TOUCH OF BLACK



Cheap yet elegant satin glass is a perfect accessory with its shapely silhouette. ebay.ca.



Mix and match vintage black satin glass with clear glass for a refined display.



Use a modern Platner table wherever you want a hint of black. **P 58**

PHOTOGRAPHY VIRGINIA MACDONALD (PORTRAIT, INTERIOR), EDWARD POND (DISH). **HAIR & MAKEUP** JACKIE SHAWN, JUDY INC. **NECKLACE** TIFFANY.CA


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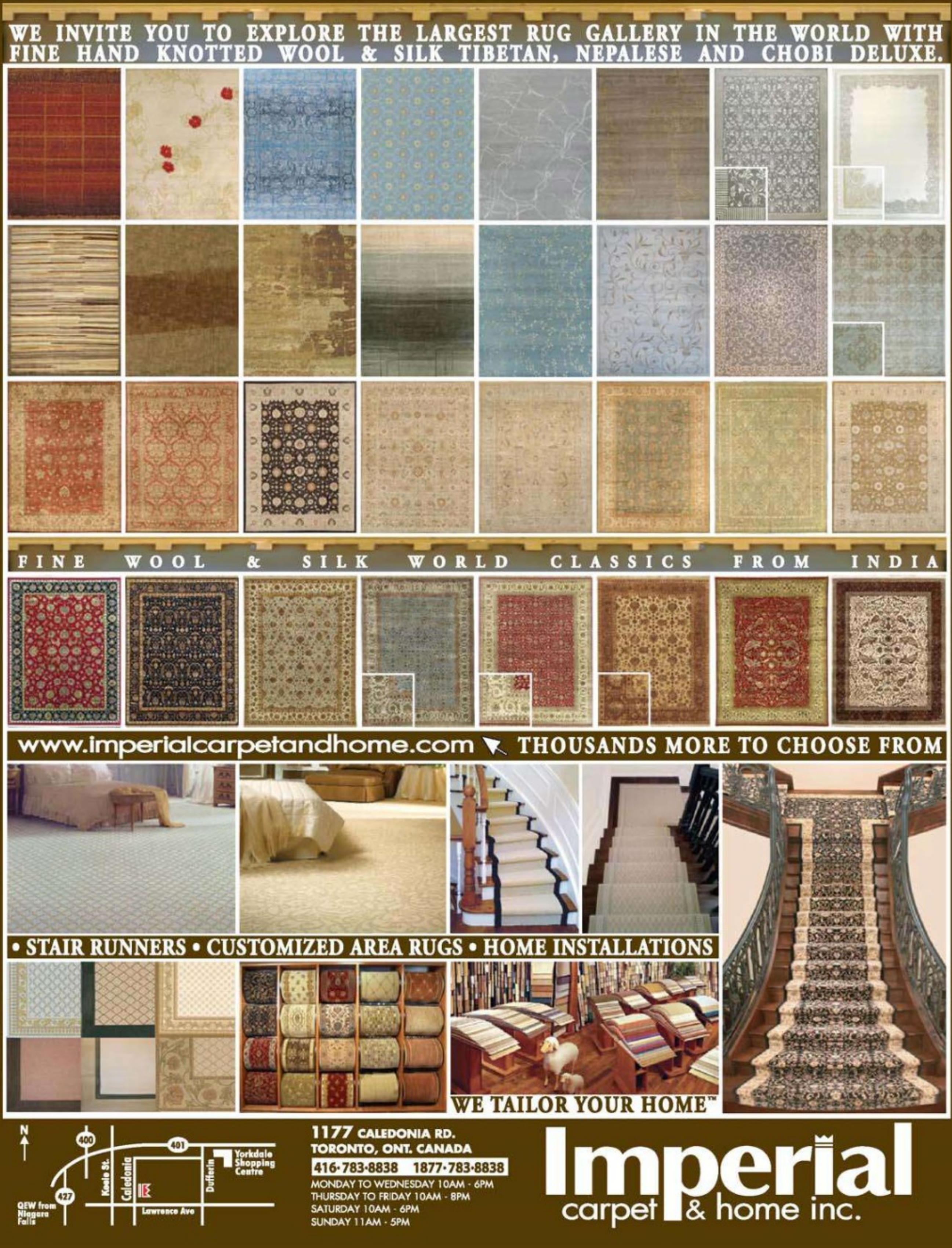
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STYLE NEWS | **SEE P 34**


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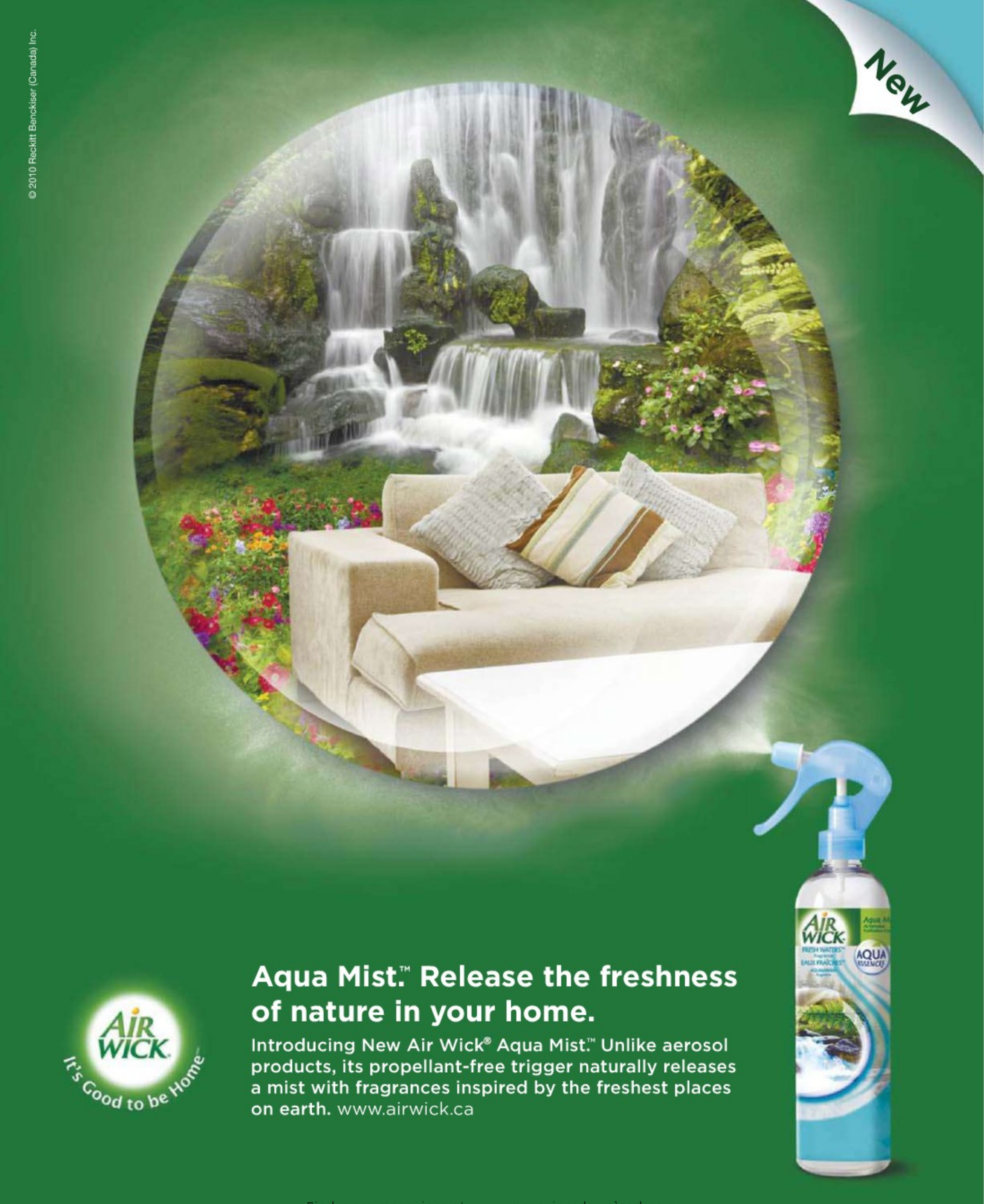
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Style at Home is published monthly by Transcontinental Media G.P., www.transcontinentalmedia.com, 25 Sheppard Ave. W., Toronto, Ont. M2N 6S7; 416-733-7600. In U.S.A., 400 Woodward Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14217. Contents © 2010. All rights reserved. Single-copy newsstand price: $5.50. Subscriptions: Canada: one year $29.95 (plus taxes). U.S.: one year $39.95 payable in advance. Other countries: one year $50 payable in advance. Send subscription orders to: *Style at Home*, Sub. Dept., P.O. Box 814, Markham Station, Markham, Ont. L3P 7Z6. Send address changes to the post office box address above, including the mailing label from your latest issue, visit www.styleathome.com or call 905-946-0910. Allow eight weeks for changes. We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program (PAP) and the Canada Magazine Fund, toward our mailing and editorial costs. PRIVACY POLICY: On occasion, we make our subscriber list available to carefully screened organizations whose products or services might interest you. If you prefer that we not share your name and address (postal and/or e-mail), you can easily remove your name from our mailing list by reaching us at any of the listed contact points. You can review our complete Privacy Policy at www.styleathome.com. Printed at Transcontinental RBW Graphics, a division of Transcontinental Printing G.T. Inc., 2049 20th St. E., Owen Sound, Ont. N4K 5R2. Distributed by Coast to Coast. All reproduction requests must be made to COPIBEC (paper reproductions at 800-717-2022), or CEDROM-SNi (electronic reproductions at reproduction@cedrom-sni.com). ISSN: 1915-8998

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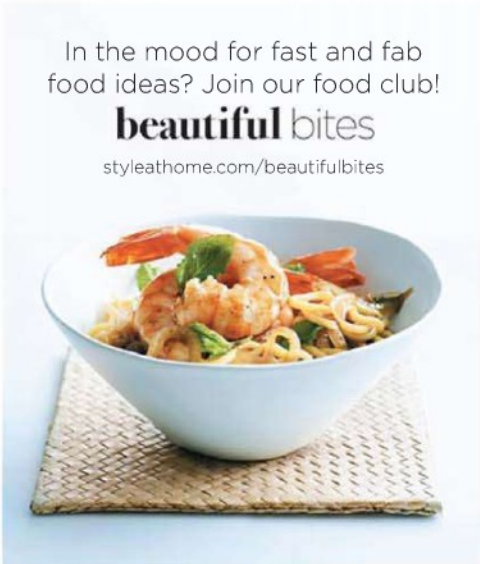
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VERSAILLES BERGÈRE IN BENJAMIN MOORE (clockwise from top left) Citrus Blast 2018-30, Watermelon Red 2087-20, Bright Yellow 2022-30, Spring Purple 2070-40, Fresh Lime 2032-30, Bahaman Sea Blue 2055-40 from $2,520 each barrymorefurniture.com; benjaminmoore.ca. Robert Allen Winterhill in Pearl (upholstery fabric), through designers, robertallendesign.com.

EDITOR BRETT WALTHER

PRIZED PULITZER



Designer Lilly Pulitzer's splashy shifts defined chic Palm Beach fashion back in the '60s, but her summery styles have had serious staying power. The couturier's breezy, coastal brights feel fresh as ever in a new collection of punchy-patterned bed linens.

BED LINENS Lilly Pulitzer Treasure Chest Pink Salmon cotton queen quilt $228 US, shams $60 US each Garnet Hill 800-870-3513.

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FABRIC (from top) Catwalk Crazy Cat indoor/outdoor acrylic velvet $206 per yard, Sail Cloth in Spring and Shrimp $159 per yard, Very Terry in Red Coral $175 per yard, through designers, telio.com.





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CONSOLE Oh So Gorgeous 32" x 16" x 40" leather $1,990 snobstuff.com.

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PHOTOGRAPHY FELIX WEDGWOOD (FABRIC, CONSOLE, GLASS AND CORAL VASES)

For easy flower arranging tips, **P 170**



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Linger longer on the patio in the warm glow of an outdoor fireplace. These perfectly portable wood- or fuel-burning options take the chill out of crisp alfresco evenings.



OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FIREPLACE porcelain-enamelled steel 32" $200 weber.com.



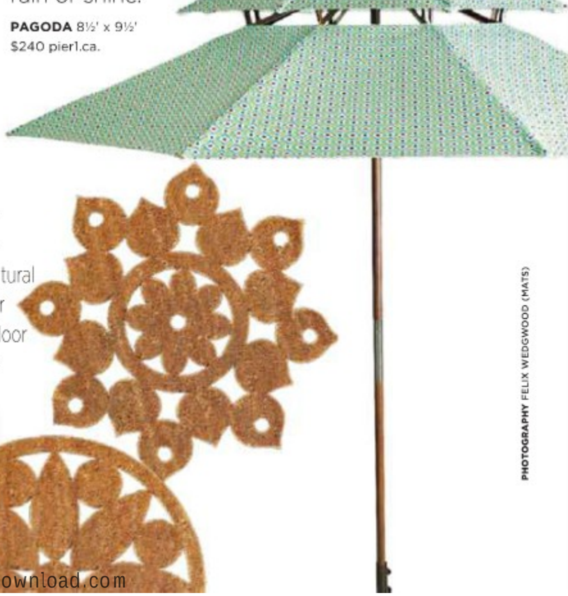
reel deal

Budget savvy, healthier for lawns and environmentally friendly, the only thing not to love about traditional reel mowers was that they were positively beastly to push. Fiskars has sliced away that drawback with its new Momentum Reel Mower. Through patented InertiaDrive technology – combined with a comfy ergonomic design – it's 30% easier to push than its forebears. What's more, the frictionless cutting system reduces the need for blade sharpening, so it's virtually maintenance-free. **MOWER** $279 canadiantire.ca.

take shelter

In pretty-printed water-repellent canvas, this elegant, multi-tiered patio umbrella has got you covered – rain or shine.

PAGODA 8½' x 9½' $240 pier1.ca.



FANCY FOOTWORK

PVC-free – unlike most mass-produced models – the all-natural coir welcome mats made by Vancouver-based designer Cristina Covello bring a shot of eco chic to the indoor-outdoor staple. The intricate water-jet-cut designs pay homage to the traditional flower-petal mats crafted in Kerala, India – the coir capital of the world.

COIR MATS Mahabali 25½", 27½" and 45" (far left) cristinacovello.com.



PHOTOGRAPHY FELIX WEDGWOOD (MATS)


GEOX

paint meets parfumerie



Paint and wallpaper powerhouse Farrow & Ball has teamed up with the famed scent-sters at Jo Malone to pair colour with fragrance in a series of five limited-edition Scented Candles. Like complementary colours, the scents are designed to play off one another in your own custom combinations.

SCENTED CANDLE Jo Malone Lime Basil & Mandarin in Farrow & Ball Breakfast Room Green 81 200 g $75 farrow-ball.com, holtrenfrew.com.

ALFRESCO ESSENTIALS

The look of heirloom cut crystal, reimagined in patio- (and wallet-) friendly acrylic.

VINTAGE CUT ACRYLIC ice cream bowls, goblets and tumblers $33 per set of four each, ice bucket with tongs $31, pitcher $31 Torre & Tagus 800-423-4417.





"Pale colours and whites can really only be enjoyed with a lot of natural light. Painting a dark room pale colours simply accentuates the shadows in a space"

MARIA KILLAM, VANCOUVER-BASED COLOUR DESIGNER AND BLOG PHENOM

mariakillam.com, colourmehappyblog.com.



QUICK CHANGE ARTIST

Love colour, but afraid to commit? The base of this table lamp doubles as a reservoir – simply fill with water, then add food colouring to create whatever hue strikes your fancy.

TABLE LAMPS clear glass bulb with shade $135 each goldcoaster.ca.

PHOTOGRAPHY FELIX WEDGWOOD (LAMPS), KEVINCLARKHEADSHOTS.COM (PORTRAIT)



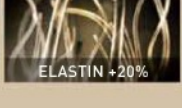
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*via skin-conditioning and hydration of the upper layers of the epidermis. **In vitro.





HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Pretty-in-pastel glazed porcelain with hand-painted 24-karat gold accents comes in a keepsake hat box and coordinates with a new line of flavourful teas.

TEACUP & SAUCER SET Indigolife 6-cup Bon Matin $50,
TEA Harney & Sons (available in seven blends) $10 chapters.indigo.ca.

DIGITAL RECIPE READER

The Demy holds your entire recipe collection right on your kitchen counter. Sync to your Mac or PC, and organize and share faves with others if you wish. It features the following.

- Free access to 250,000 recipes via keyingredient.com
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- Library of ingredient substitutions

RECIPE READER Demy $199 costco.ca



TREND ALERT...

plum perfect!

Aubergine, cassis, fig – whatever you call it, this gorgeous colour has made its way from the runway to the kitchen.



BRAISER PAN 3 L in Cassis $265 lecreuset.ca.



PLATE Färgrik Högst $7 ikea.ca.



MIXER Artisan Series in Boysenberry $470 kitchenaid.ca.

For more plum kitchenwares, **P 175**

Whoever said you eat with your eyes first would have a visual feast with macarons.

Don't confuse them with macaroons (the coconut cookies); these are made from almond paste and sugar. The delicate, crisp and chewy morsels can be made in a dizzying array of colours, flavours (raspberry, hazelnut, cinnamon, pistachio, vanilla black pepper, to name a few) and filling combinations (coffee, blueberry, sesame, rosewater). Japanese pastry maker Hisako Ogita provides step-by-step instructions for baking the slightly complicated cookies (rely on her troubleshooting tips), plus luscious cream fillings and pretty ways to gift wrap – if you can part with the lovelies. **I ❤ MACARONS** by Hisako Ogita (Chronicle, 2009) $20 chapters.indigo.ca.

For recipes, go to **STYLEATHOME.COM/MACARONS**



EDITOR JULIA ARMSTRONG. **WORDS** JENN HOULIHAN (MACARONS). **PHOTOGRAPHY** VIRGINIA MACDONALD (CHINA, TEA); YASUO NAGUMO AND DAVID BARICH FROM I ❤ MACARONS BY HISAKO OGITA (MACARONS)


If you love Havarti, you'll love Gouda.
With a smooth and buttery taste, Gouda is like Havarti but has sweeter caramel overtones you're sure to melt over. Discover more fine Canadian cheeses at discoverfinecheese.ca
LOOK FOR
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all you need is cheese



small-size supersuction

Say hello to the newest, cutest innovation from Dyson! It's called the DC26 City – because it's perfect for small-space urban living. Although teeny, it packs all the power of a regular-size vacuum. At only 3.25 kg, this is one gadget you can tote around with ease. **VACUUM** $500 dyson.com.

GREAT iPHONE **GARDENING** APPS



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WHAT WE LOVE Allows you to track the process of all the veggies and herbs you grow and organizes any tasks you need to complete.

Landscaper's Companion $9.99 US
WHAT WE LOVE The ultimate in digital gardening reference guides, featuring information on 1,400-plus plants; has over 5,700 pictures to help you become an expert on your garden.

Garden ToDo $1.99 US
WHAT WE LOVE Perfect for keeping tabs on the progress of your garden every year. Take pics of your landscaping and create to-do lists for every part of your yard.

For more garden inspiration, **P 132**

people love us on twitter!

Our web editor, Lauren McPhillips, didn't miss a tweet at the 2010 Interior Design Show (IDS) in February, as she posted pictures of fab finds, beautiful spaces and up-and-coming Canadian designers. One of our @StyleAtHome Twitter followers, @whitewashco, tweeted the following in appreciation of Lauren's efforts.


OUR *STYLE AT HOME* BOOTH AT THE 2010 INTERIOR DESIGN SHOW

"I love that you are at the IDS10 taking pics – it makes it feel like I went! Thanks so much for tweeting."

Stay up to date with decorating and design trends – follow us at **TWITTER.COM/STYLEATHOME**

white-hot snaps

The Pentax Optio I-10 is the coolest new digicam out there, with a white body in old-school SLR style. It also features 5x zoom, HD video recording and face detection for humans and pets. The classic style of an SLR paired with the newest technology – what more could you want in a point-and-shoot? Also comes in black. **CAMERA** $290 pentax.ca.



CHECK IT OFF

Make sure your month runs smoothly by downloading our May organizing checklist.

STYLEATHOME.COM/MAYCHECKLIST

WORDS LAUREN MCPHILLIPS. **PHOTOGRAPHY** DONNA GRIFFITH (GARDEN, INTERIOR DESIGN SHOW)


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Don't let allergies bully your child's nose.
Soothe noses with Puffs® Plus with lotion.
Puffs® Plus is more soothing than plain tissue.
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A nose in need deserves Puffs® Plus indeed.
Puffs
plus lotion

TURQUOISE DELIGHT

Those moody blues have lifted, making way for warm, playful shades that strike just the right note for the lazy, hazy days ahead.



WALLPAPER Blue Mountain Wallcoverings Shand Kydd Bird Toile $39 per roll designbycolor.net.



GLASSES Diod 3" $2.50 each ikea.ca.



CHAIR 90 x 79 x 90 cm Acapulco UV-resistant woven vinyl cord and powder-coated steel $450 innitimported.com.



GARDEN STOOL 17" Capiz $150 pier1.ca.



CUSHION Remy 16" cotton jersey $45 crateandbarrel.ca.



TABLE LAMP Paulette 30" $595 thecrossdesign.com.



PITCHER 1.9 L stoneware $65 lecreuset.ca.



TOWELS Fräjen hand $5 each, bath $10 each, **BASKET** Agen $13 ikea.ca. @

For more turquoise items, **P 164**

EDITOR BRETT WALTHER. PHOTOGRAPHY FELIX WEDGWOOD (GLASSES, WALLPAPER, CHAIR, TOWELS)



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the great indoors

Colour palettes borrowed from nature are a breath of fresh air for any room

PRODUCER MALCOLM PATTERSON | **WORDS** MARGOT AUSTIN | **PHOTOGRAPHY** DONNA GRIFFITH

The cool greens in this clover mural wallpaper create the feeling of an earthy woodland retreat.

WALLPAPER wallyouneedislove.com. **SCREEN** hollacecluny.ca. **SETTEE** hickorychair.com. **SETTEE FABRIC** Linen Weave in Linen, through designers, robertallendesign.com. **UPHOLSTERY** whittingtonfurniture.com. **CUSHION FABRIC** Success in Polo (dark green), through designers, robertallendesign.com (for other fabrics, see page 44). **TABLE** constantineinteriors.com. **RUG** through designers, weaversart.com. →

1 | STYLE SECRET

A cluster of short, shapely white vases – with or without flowers – is an easy styling solution for a coffee table.



2 | STYLE SECRET

A symphony of leafy greens is just as beautiful on your sofa as it is in your garden. Botanical embroidery and a multi-hue stripe display the full palette, while a trellis print and solid complete the scheme.

CUSHION FABRIC (clockwise from left) Lucerne in Summer, Circa Solid in Citrone invudraperyco.com; Lilo in Mojito, Escher in Patina, through designers, robertallendesign.com.

3 | STYLE SECRET

Pair a floral print of birds and trailing vines with a two-tone toile de Jouy for pattern interest – the solid green cushion matches the piping on the others, adding a quiet note.

FABRIC (from left) Circa Solid in Citrone invudraperyco.com; Felicity 61140 in Petal, through designers, bilbroughs.com; Beacon Hill Paradise Toile in Federal, through designers, robertallendesign.com. **SEWING** invudraperyco.com. →




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My bathroom. Designed for my life.
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4 | STYLE SECRET

A panorama of oversize cherry blossoms in full bloom makes a modern spring floral statement all year round.

WALLPAPER wallyouneedislove.com. **SOFA** Merrick montauksofa.com. **COFFEE TABLE** Tusk industrialstorm.com. **FLORAL ARRANGEMENT** teatroverde.com. **DINING TABLE** lacquered, **CHAIRS** Wishbone Phil'z 416-461-9913. **LAMP** Jonathan Adler livingartsdesign.com. **CARPET** seagrass carpetone.ca. **RUG** wool modernweave.com.

WHERE TO FIND
CUSTOM WALLS & MURALS

Montreal-based Wall You Need Is Love creates eye-popping custom mural wallpaper using high-tech digital printing. Choose from one of the hundreds of images on the company's website or send in your own photo. Murals are printed in rolls and then applied much like traditional wall-paper. Prices start at $720 for an 8' x 10' mural.

To see an exciting update of this iconic chair, **P 178**



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HINT: This South-Asian country is home to more than 1.2 billion people and is well-known for its thriving Bollywood film industry. Enjoy the sweet and spicy taste and robust flavours of **Lipton Spiced Cinnamon Chai Tea**, blended with subtle hints of cinnamon and spice for a truly exotic indulgence.



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craving colour

PRODUCER
MARTHA UNIACKE BREEN

WHO Alessandra Branca, the Italian-born interior designer and owner of the Chicago design firm and retail shop Branca.

CLAIM TO FAME Alessandra (at left in Chicago, her adopted home) has earned accolades worldwide for her distinctive yet livable approach to design.

WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT HER A fearless approach to colour. "Colour is so much a part of my being that I wouldn't know how to live without it," she says.

WHAT'S NEW Her sumptuous 272-page book, *New Classic Interiors* ($78, Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 2009), which showcases several of her favourite interiors. The more than 200 photos reveal how she combines formal pieces and antiques with modern-day touches and plenty of vibrant colour to fill spaces with personality and warmth.



Alessandra Branca designed this Chicago duplex "to feel like an Italian palazzo" with its warm yellow and ochres.

TRENDSPOTTING 2010

quality classics "We're returning to more classical-based interiors. I feel people have learned that when the going gets tough, the classics are still the best place to invest," says Alessandra. "If you're going to buy a big piece, buy something striking, and the best quality you can afford. Quality is the only thing that lasts!"



HER NEW BOOK

"I wrote it in order to 'demystify' what I do, as well as inspire others," says Alessandra Branca. Her definition of 'New Classic' interiors: "Those based on classical principles but made au courant."

NEW CLASSIC INTERIORS by Alessandra Branca with Christine Pittel ($78, Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 2009) →

PHOTOGRAPHY THIBAULT JEANSON & ALAN SHORTALL FROM *NEW CLASSIC INTERIORS* BY ALESSANDRA BRANCA (STEWART, TABORI & CHANG, 2009)


I Didn't Know
Natural Hair Care
Could Feel This Luxurious
Now natural hair care goes deep below hair's surface to actually transform it. Made with natural oils, without dyes or parabens, new Nexxus Nourishing Botanicals weightlessly hydrate and condition for salon performance, naturally.
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TAKE HOME HER LOOK Alessandra describes Branca, her Chicago retail location, as a place to purchase old items that are made new through upholstery, or given a new use, like lamps made from sculptural items. "We also take new items and mix them with old ones, such as porcelain tablewares," she says. "The whole point is to encourage our customers to do the same and mix elements effortlessly into their interiors." Branca, 312-787-1017; branca.com.

BEST COLOUR ADVICE

"You can get away with hot pink. You just have to be judicious"

her favourite accessories

"Lighting is always a favourite," says Alessandra, "followed very closely by a great throw."

THROW Branca Home Collection organic cotton $225 US branca.com.





ALESSANDRA'S STYLE

"I like to layer and juxtapose patterns to create energy"



ALESSANDRA'S FAVOURITE REDS NOW Chili Pepper 2004-20 benjaminmoore.ca (right); Rectory Red 217 farrow-ball.com (far right)

"Because red is passionate, universal and warm, you find it in all cultures, areas and climates. It gives life." Her tip for people afraid to try red: "Just start by using a little bit here and there – a lampshade or a porcelain vase." →


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DESIGN INFLUENCES **"Elsie de Wolfe, Syrie Maugham, Jean-Michel Frank, David Hicks, Billy Baldwin and Renzo Mongiardino, to name a few," says Alessandra. "Not a single one could exist without the others, in my mind."**



TIP FOR DESIGNING WITH RED

"People think I do 'all-red' rooms when in fact I very rarely use red as the dominant colour. I almost prefer it as an accent against a neutral background"

alessandra is on the hunt for a new dining table. "I finally realized that the best solution would be a round table – the most democratic of seating arrangements. Now that our children are grown, rather than do a 'kiddies' table I'd like to be able to have everyone, all generations included, around one table." →





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ON ALESSANDRA'S SHELF

A House Is Not a Home by Bruce Weber. "The title means so much," she says. "Rarely do people understand that after you make all the effort to decorate, it means nothing if you don't populate and live in those spaces. The images and homes he photographed are wonderful, and I never tire of looking at them."


Trevi Fountain, Rome

HER FAVE TRAVEL DESTINATIONS

Italy and India. "I like to go far away to different cultures. I travel to learn and then rest, in that order. We learn the most in unfamiliar places."

ALESSANDRA'S APPROACH TO INTERIOR DESIGN

"The concept is that you can relax and lounge anywhere. That's very Roman"

a branca original

"This ottoman with pullout trays is my favourite item in the Branca Home collection," she says. "It's thoughtful and practical while still being gorgeous. I've done it in formal settings with gilt legs and velvet, and in leather on mahogany in my kids' play space/hangout."

CUSTOM OTTOMAN $5,200 US, branca.com.



For more Inside Design, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/INSIDEDESIGN**

dressing room



CHAIR Les Provinciales Collection Berenice beech Louis XVI-style bergère $6,035 roche-bobois.com. **CUSHION FABRIC** Dupioni silk $16 per yard designerfabrics.ca. **MIRROR** Esme bevelled $246 gingersbath.com. **POUFFE** Flocks medium hand-knitted wool in light grey $848, **PENDANT LIGHT** Le Klint 172B hand-folded plastic $461 dwr.com. **TABLE** Platner steel wire in Metallic Bronze $1,017 knoll.com. **CUP & SAUCER** antique bone china $45 per set cynthiafindlay.com. **VASE** Cube hand-blown glass $19, **RUG** Sisal Almond 6' x 9' $249 crateandbarrel.ca. **DRESS** Coral linen $134 bananarepublic.ca.

PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREW GRINTON, **WALL PAINT** POT DU VIN P5087-63 PARA.COM, **DOOR** THEDOORSTORE.CA, **SHOES** WINNERS.CA

Relax and unwind in luxurious comfort,
on a diva or debutante budget. **PRODUCER** ANN MARIE FAVOT



CHAIR Orleans beech Louis XV-style bergère $2,230 barrymorefurniture.com. **CUSHION FABRIC** Faux silk in 544 Old Rose $10 per yard designerfabrics.ca. **MIRROR** bevelled $60, **POUFFE** knitted $60 homesense.ca. **PENDANT LIGHT** Knappa polypropylene $40 ikea.ca. **TABLE** Collector's Classics wire in polished nickel $509 ethanallen.com. **CUP & SAUCER** antique china $15 per set cynthiafindlay.com. **VASE** glass $7 pc.ca. **RUG** Tårnby 6′ x 8′ jute $150 ikea.ca. **DRESS** Coral crochet $35 oldnavy.ca. →

DETAILS, DETAILS

Ever wonder what makes an item high or low? It's all in the details!

HIGH



- hand-made in France
- sculpted and moulded solid beech
- duvet-and-foam seat cushion
- antiqued lavender satin finish
- upholstered in Song

$6,035 | Les Provinciales Collection Berenice bergère roche-bobois.com

$461 | Le Klint 172B pendant dwr.com



- designed by architect Poul Christiansen in 1971
- hand-made in Denmark
- folded PVC won't yellow or gather dust
- Le Klint company family-owned since 1943



$1,017 | Platner table knoll.com

- designed by architect-designer Warren Platner in 1966
- hand-made in Italy
- welded steel rods in painted metallic bronze finish with bronze glass top

LOW



- hand-made in Canada
- solid European beech carved in Italy
- feather seat cushion
- custom finish
- upholstered in Robert Allen Kiki in Dahlia

$2,230 | Orleans bergère barrymorefurniture.com

$40 | Knappa pendant ikea.ca



- designed by Flemming Brylle and Preben Jacobsen
- machine-made in Lithuania
- polypropylene



$509 | Collector's Classics table ethanallen.com

- made in China; combination of hand- and machine-construction
- wire in polished-nickel finish with tempered-glass top @

For more statement chairs, P 170



Alayna's Picks

Designed to fit!



Start with a simple product, add an inspired idea and you have a smart design that's innovative and functional! Alayna is always on the lookout for amazing little products for her home and garden like these ones that celebrate style and function.



Great New Redesign!
- firm gel grip
- hollowed-out thumb rest
- angled neck

Herb Box and Blackboard

Nothing tastes as delicious on your favourite foods as fresh herbs, and with this rustic wood herb box from Homesense, you can grow your own in abundance all year round. But for those who are herb challenged and can't remember what they've planted, the handy blackboard is a clever added feature to help you keep track so you can easily identify all of your little green bunches!

Reach® Total Care™ + Massage Toothbrush

Here's another must-have product with an ingenious design! Reach® Total Care™ + Massage features gum stimulators that massage and rejuvenate the gums – it reduces gingivitis to help improve the health of your gums. Plus the multi-dimensional bristles help break up and dislodge stubborn plaque from hard-to-reach places like the back teeth and the gum line.



Watering Can and Garden Tote

Pretty in purple and lightweight plastic, this oversized watering can by Bergo Designs is a true reflection of artistic form and everyday function. It does double duty in the garden – when it's not filled with water, it easily holds and carries all your gardening supplies.

REACH®

room to improve

Contributing decorating editor Kimberley Seldon brings harmony to a *Style at Home* reader's living/dining room discord





the problem Kelli Normore wants to make a statement with her living/dining room, as it's the first space guests see when they enter her Brechin, Ont., home. "I really want that wow factor when you walk in," she says, but worries her approach to decorating the double-duty space is creating more of a "whoa" factor. "I'm not afraid of colour," says Kelli, "but the blue walls make the room very cold."

the fix "The good news," says Kimberley, "is that Kelli's warm wood floors, abundant natural light and charming fireplace provide a solid foundation for the wow factor she craves." But before dishing on how to achieve that fantastic first impression, Kimberley says it's important to bring the duelling living and dining spaces into a cohesive whole.

1 | BULK UP & BALANCE OUT

"If the dining table has leaves, use them," Kimberley says. "That will visually enlarge the dining area." Adding a bench along one side of the table helps blur the boundary between dining and living spaces. Balance the visual weight of the dining area by flanking the sofa with substantial end tables and introducing a large coffee table to further link the two spaces.

2 | INVEST IN TEXTILES

Since Kelli loves her blue sofa, Kimberley recommends drapes in the same rich shade to create visual balance. "Forgo a fussy valance and tiebacks in favour of simple panels that touch the floor," she says. "Next, choose an area rug that embraces the entire room. Remember: the larger the rug, the bigger the room will look."

3 | COMPLEMENT WITH COLOUR

"For the walls, opt for a deep, warm grey with a yellow base," Kimberley suggests. "Benjamin Moore's Escarpment CC-518 will bring those lovely blues to life." Highlight the handsome new crown moulding and ceiling with Benjamin Moore's Ballet White OC-9. @

KIMBERLEY SELDON, *STYLE AT HOME* CONTRIBUTING DECORATING EDITOR

FOR MORE TIPS Watch Kimberley on *CityLine* cityline.ca. **DO YOU HAVE ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT?** Send Kimberley your design dilemmas at askus@styleathome.com, or Ask Us, Style at Home, 25 Sheppard Ave. W., Toronto, Ont., M2N 6S7. Send brief letters with contact info and the highest-resolution photos possible. (Kimberley can't respond personally or return items.)



ILLUSTRATION BRET TINSON, KIMBERLEY SELDON DESIGN GROUP. **PORTRAIT** GREG DEAN


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3M design LESSON



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WHAT VIRGINIA STARTED WITH

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Creating a picture gallery in your family room

Use different shapes and textures

To add interest and visual appeal to your walls, hang a variety of items – from pictures and clocks, to mirrors and other works of art. Experiment with works of varied sizes, shapes and textures to draw attention to your gallery.

Have a theme

Choosing the right theme is important when it comes to defining the room and creating the atmosphere you're seeking. You can select ideas from home decor magazines, but ultimately the theme should be a reflection of your personal taste and decorating style.

Work within a defined area

Hanging too many pieces on a wall can just look cluttered and overdone instead of appealing and interesting. Define the space you want to work within, then arrange items on the floor in the set space to judge how it looks.

Place items at eye level

Start by hanging your main piece or your largest work at eye level, then arrange other pieces around it to create balance and eye appeal. Keep equal distances between pieces to create a polished look.

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Command Strips Bandes 3M



the butterfly effect

Would you believe this beauty of an entryway chest of drawers was once a colonial maple cast-off rescued from a thrift shop for $40? Two coats of paint in the palest blue is the backdrop for a charming stamping technique that has butterflies fluttering up the front of the chest and onto the wall. A small footstool is the perfect spot for a handbag. Two quick coats of paint and a DIY upholstery job using a remnant of hyacinth-hue linen make it the ultimate companion piece.

PAINT Desert Utopia P5103-24 (chest of drawers), Glorious Gladiolas P5045-52 (wall), Ultimate Luxury P5103-41D (footstool) para.com. **STAMPS, PAINT** Craft Smart acrylic, **INK PAD** Martha Stewart Crafts archival in Gold michaels.com. **CHEST OF DRAWERS** valuevillage.ca. **PULLS** gingersbath.com. **FOOTSTOOL** Bronze Home Decor 416-913-6545. **CHAIR** Saarinen dwr.com. **MIRROR** Dorothy Draper 1212decor.com. **SMALL YELLOW VASE, UMBRELLA STAND** ChairTableLamp 416-934-1021. **LARGE YELLOW VASE, LAVENDER BOWL** homesense.ca. **RUG** elte.com. **QUINCE BRANCHES** demarco-perpich.com. →





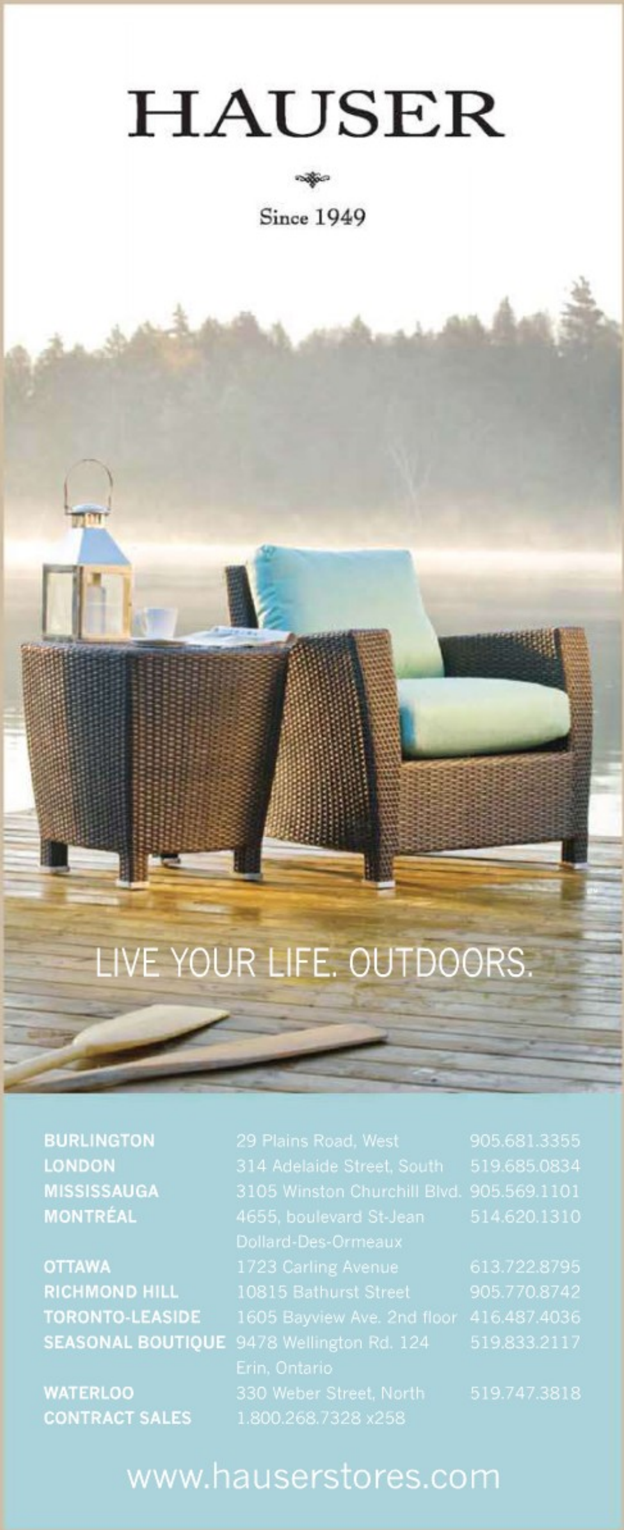
scent the scene

Welcome spring – and guests – with the fragrance and colour of dramatic flowering hyacinth blooms and quince branches.

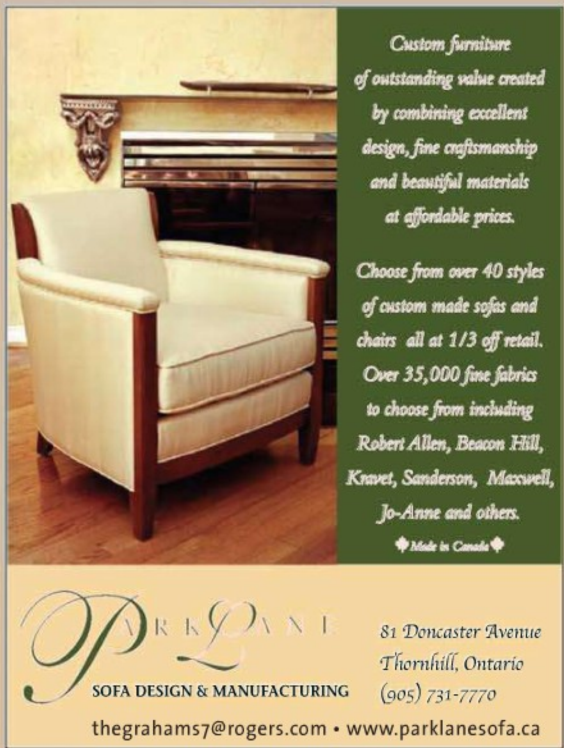


winged beauties

Sophisticated faux bamboo pulls in a brushed-gold finish ensure this whimsical piece looks thoroughly grown-up. Rubber butterfly stamps in various sizes, an acrylic stamping block (used for mounting the stamps), and leftover or craft paint in a few coordinating colours are all you need for this project. We used Clear Butterfly Stamps from the Martha Stewart Crafts line, available at Michaels Stores. Apply stamps in at least three colours and sizes for a random pattern. Dab paint onto stamp using foam brush, then press stamp firmly and evenly onto chest of drawers. Rock stamp back and forth and from side to side to ensure full contact with surface. Add a few butterflies to top of chest, then continue right up wall. →


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freehand flourish

Give a dressing table a *soupçon* of French flair with a pretty makeover in a patisserie-inspired palette. Two coats of blue green paint lighten this formerly black thrift store find; a hand-painted outline accentuates its curves. Add a mirror with a decorative painted fleur-de-lis frame, a petite perch and punchy striped boxes for a delightful spot to complete your daily beauty routine. **TIP** Customize craft-store storage boxes with a cute wide-stripe paint treatment in juicy raspberry pink.

PAINT Dix Blue 82 (table, mirror frame), Pale Powder 204 (wall, stool), All White 2005 (highlight lines, trim, white stripes on boxes), Oval Room Blue 85 (shading line) farrow-ball.com; Beauti-Tone 2C2-7 (pink stripes on boxes) homehardware.ca. **TABLE** valuevillage.ca. **MIRROR** Kolja ikea.ca. **TRAY** glass gingersbath.com. **BOXED SOAP, LAMPS** putti.ca. **BOXES** deserres.ca. **RUG** homesense.ca.

french flair

A fleur-de-lis inspired the elegant embellishment for this frameless bevelled mirror. Print template and trace motif onto wall at top and bottom of mirror; paint design using small artist's brush. When dry, add white highlights and darker shading lines as shown. Hand-paint lines to almost join top and bottom motifs and complete frame, if desired. Use a clean damp rag to wipe away any errors as you go. Don't worry if lines aren't straight – imperfection lends character. →

For fleur-de-lis template, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/MIRROR**





sitting pretty

Painted a shade lighter than the dressing table, this stool also gets a boost from a quick, easy DIY reupholstery job. Before painting metal furniture, rub with steel wool to remove flaking paint or rust, then prime and paint. To reupholster seat, remove it from stool. Turn seat upside down onto wrong side of fabric. Cut fabric about 4" larger than seat all around. Wrap fabric around seat and pull taut on one side, then staple. Repeat on three remaining sides, stapling fabric every inch or so and pulling taut as you go. Cut away excess fabric and reattach seat to stool.

PAINT Pale Powder 204 (stool) farrow-ball.com. **STOOL** homesense.ca. **STOOL FABRIC** Windsor Smith Menara in Seafoam kravetcanada.com.

fine lines

Add dimension to a highlight by teaming it with a dark, narrow shadow line. To create white highlight, mask off ¼" wide stripe about 1" from straight edges of dressing table using two parallel rows of low-tack painter's tape. Paint between rows of tape with small artist's brush and white paint. Hand-paint line along any curved areas to complete outline. Once thoroughly dry, mask off narrower line along inside edge of white line with tape. Paint using smaller artist's brush and darker shade of paint. Embellish bottom apron of table or around edge of drawer with more highlight and shadow lines, if desired.

KNOB glass gingersbath.com. →







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trompe l'oeil tufts

Is that a gorgeous white button-tufted headboard you see? Well, yes and no. This fabulous headboard is a trick of the eye, or trompe l'oeil, done with paint. Starting with a white wall, use a level, tape measure and pencil to lightly outline shape of design onto wall. Make total width 4" wider than mattress, and height whatever you desire – ours is 58" high. Tape off headboard shape and paint outside a deep colour in flat finish (we used black). Mark inner lines of design in pencil, then go over them with paint marker. Using paint marker, draw on buttons to mimic tufting. To finish room, treat bedside table to two coats of bright white paint and a stylish new drawer knob – a no-fail furniture fix!

PAINT Pitch Black 256 (wall), All White 2005 (headboard, table) farrow-ball.com. **PAINT MARKER** Sharpie deserres.ca. **TABLE** Bronze Home Decor 416-913-6545. **PATTERNED QUILT & SHAMS** Alhambra in Berry anthropologie.com. **SHEET SET** Classic Ruffle Peony pineconehill.com. **WHITE COVERLET** zellers.com. **LAMP, FEATHER HEADDRESS** Manor 416-544-1700. **RUG** ycocarpet.com. →




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on the curve

To make curved corners, use compass or trace around edge of large circular item. Draw on button tufting design at 8" intervals across width of headboard, staggering from top to bottom. Use pencil first, then go over final design with paint marker.

To download button tufting design template, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/HEADBOARD**



interior decorating

Don't neglect the inside of a piece of furniture when making it over. With the help of paint and a pretty drawer liner, the interior of this piece is as elegant as its new exterior. @

DRAWER LINER Blue Mountain Wallcoverings BC1580502 grasscloth designbycolor.net. **SIMILAR KNOB** anthropologie.com.



For another version of this side table, **P 116**





perennial favourite

Against a backdrop of sky blue, *Pure Design* host Samantha Pynn updates a living and dining room in garden-inspired style

WORDS SAMANTHA PYNN | **PHOTOGRAPHY** VIRGINIA MACDONALD



Homeowners Chetna and Bhups Patel wanted furnishings that would appear to have evolved over time. Painted white, this secondhand chest is meant to look as if it was moved from the bedroom.

CHEST salvageshoprentals.ca.

The seagrass carpet from Carpet One adds texture to the space, but its neutral colour allows the furnishings to stand out.

LIVING ROOM PALETTE Homeowner Chetna Patel's personality – which is as cheery and vivacious as the clothes she wears – was the inspiration for the fuchsia red floral on the three-seater sofa. We moved Chetna and Bhups's loveseat elsewhere, replacing it with two secondhand armchairs. It only seemed natural to paint the walls sky blue with a hint of green – an extension of the view and an ideal backdrop to the garden of fabrics starting to bloom inside. Stylist Malcolm Patterson and I then sat down to decide on the remaining fabrics, right down to the piping on the cushions. For me, decorating is all about connections, so we upholstered the armchairs and valance boxes in the same natural linen. Fuchsia-and-green cushions on the armchairs create a bridge between the sofa and the dining chairs, which are covered in a petite damask in green.

DESIGN hgtv.ca/puredesign. **CARPENTRY** dunkcontracting@yahoo.ca. **PAINT** Bird's Egg 2051-60 (walls), Ultra White CC-10 (dining chairs, trim), White Down CC-50 (chest, buffet) benjaminmoore ca. **LACQUER** (buffet) Pro Glo Paints 416-462-9300. **PAINTING** Christopher Paul Painting & Design 416-605-5489. **FABRIC, UPHOLSTERY, LAMP, VASE** invudraperyco.com. **CART** timelessmaterials.com. **ARMCHAIRS** GUFF 416-913-8025. **CARPET** carpetone.com. **ARTWORK** *Berry Group* and *Berry Group II* by Tammy Ratcliff (left of chest), *Scarlett Tanagers* by J.J. Lee (above chest) artinteriors.ca. →

BEFORE PHOTOS JOHN QUEENAN. **STYLING** MALCOLM PATTERSON & JULIA BLACK



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Antique brass nailhead trim makes the sofa look as if it's always been upholstered in the vibrant red floral.

If the room had been silent, you would have heard the *Pure Design* team's hearts beat in unison when we walked into Chetna and Bhups Patel's historic home in east Toronto. But we were noisy with excitement. We get some great submissions to consider for makeovers on the show, but it's rare to find a space with a coffered ceiling, 12" baseboards, a floor with a magnificent square pattern, four windows and a view of a perennial garden – not to mention homeowners who are fearless when it comes to colour.

OK, OK, if you've seen this episode of the show, you know it's really just Chetna who loves colour. But Bhups, more of a neutrals man, loves Chetna. "Bhups would rather not walk down the street with me when I'm wearing my hot pink coat," says Chetna with a laugh, "but after 10 years he's gotten used to it!"

VALANCES, ROMAN SHADES, CUSHION SEWING Luxe 416-463-0215. **DRAPERY, SIDE TABLE, LAMP** invudraperyco.com. **SHELVES** ikea.ca. **SOFA TABLE** unionlf.com. **CERAMIC SCULPTURES** (on sofa table) katherinemorley.com. **FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS** (throughout) teatroverde.com. **WOOD** (for valance fabrication) homedepot.ca. →

WINDOW TREATMENT Chetna loves that the space is "bright and airy, with natural light flooding in from all angles." But the windows, which are dead centre on the walls, seemed narrow. To make them appear larger, we added valance boxes 30" wider. I wanted to keep the coverings simple so that pattern and colour would be concentrated in the seating areas. We upholstered the boxes in natural linen and added organic cotton drapery panels. In the dining area, we used the same valance boxes but mounted them on the inside; simple roll shades highlight the frames.

For more perfect palettes, **P 164**



When stylist Julia Black sourced this recycled scrap-metal light fixture to hang above the table, the whole space just clicked. It echoes the dark metal base of the dining table and industrial look of the cart-turned-coffee table in the living area.

TABLE urbantreesalvage.com.
LIGHT FIXTURE lampcage.ca.

The couple's hand-me-down square-back armchairs didn't tuck under the table, so we swapped four secondhand armless chairs (with similar scrolling detail) for two of them. The whole set is unified with white paint and fabric.

CHAIRS craigslist.ca.
METAL PANEL invudraperyco.com.

The floor has a gorgeous square pattern. Its golden tone pairs well with the sky blue paint and the seagrass rug in the living area. →



We placed a vintage cabinet in the dining room (its original hardware is worth more than the piece itself!) and painted it the same soft white used on the trim and ceiling.

CABINET The Elegant Garage Sale 416-322-9744.
ARTWORK *Landscape I and II* by Shawn Skeir artinteriors.ca.

Chetna and Bhups are serious globetrotters who lived for several years in London and Los Angeles. Though they hadn't shipped much furniture from their previous abodes and were starting almost from scratch, they wanted their home to have a lived-in look. Anything "matched" was out of the question. "We like repurposing, reclaiming and finding unusual uses for everyday items," says Chetna. "Our coffee table is an old factory cart, and we had Urban Tree Salvage in Toronto make us a dining table from a beautiful piece of reclaimed silver maple." They were right on track with these items and the two quality sofas they'd purchased online. Nothing matched – but nothing connected either.

By rethinking the furniture layout and choosing a fresh colour scheme anchored by sky blue, we brought cohesion – without a matchy-matchy feel – to the couple's new home.



The wall of secondhand china cost all of $15! It's the imperfect way the items are arranged that makes the grouping perfect.

CHINA valuevillage.ca.
PLATE HOLDERS leevalley.com. →

INTERNATIONAL INSPIRATION

Chetna and Bhups are British-born but have also lived in sunny California. Now that they're making Toronto their home, Samantha wanted to incorporate elements of their former surroundings. "We love seeing things that remind us of all the wonderful experiences we've shared together," says Chetna.

WHAT FEELS L.A.

- Mix of vintage and flea market finds
- Low modern sofa
- Casual, earthy seagrass carpet
- Landscape art that reminds the couple of Southern California views

WHAT FEELS LONDON

- Strong saturated colour and a carefree mix of patterns – a nod to the fearless use of colour in fab London hotels like the Haymarket
- Floral prints that remind Chetna of the English gardens where they used to live



SAMANTHA PYNN IS *STYLE AT HOME'S* CONTRIBUTING DESIGN EDITOR AND THE HOST OF HGTV'S *PURE DESIGN*. CHECK HGTV.CA FOR AIR DATES AND TIMES.



the patels' palette

Samantha's inspiration? Views of the perennial garden and sky – and homeowner Chetna Patel's love of colourful clothing.

FABRIC 1 Sommers in Driftwood **2** Ohana in Coral **3** Sun Room in Pond **4** Imogen in Citrus **5** Shannon in Oyster **6** Lenox Lounge in Canyon **7** Circa Solid in Sandalwood **8** Brentwood in Tumbleweed **9** Robert Allen Zeno in Pistachio **10** Beacon Hill Alcot in Rhubarb all invudraperyco.com. **11 CARPET** Bigelow Prestige Joellen in Chestnut carpetone.ca. **12 PAINT** Bird's Egg 2051-60 benjaminmoore.ca. **13 CHETNA'S DRESS** (bottom left) inspired the palette. →

PHOTOGRAPHY EDWARD POND. **STYLING** JULIA BLACK

Joanne Boyd loves her lawn

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BEST OF THE BLUES

Inspired by Samantha Pynn's dreamy colour scheme, *Style at Home*'s design experts choose perfect pale shades that will work in any room of the house.



Palest aqua is a fresh backdrop for traditional furniture and a handsome mantel in art director **Susan Rogers'** living room.



Contributing stylist **Kevin Austin** used sky blue to evoke the feel of a sunny beach bungalow in this modern dining room.



Like Samantha, senior design editor **Margot Austin** loves Bird's Egg. She used it in this bedroom and painted the night-stand another Benjamin Moore blue, Peacock Blue 2049-40.



Not too dark and not too pale, this fresh, watery blue strikes just the right clean note in contributing stylist **Nicola Marc**'s petite vintage-style bathroom. @

OUR EDITORS' FAVES



Erin McLaughlin
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homehardware.ca



Ann Marie Favot
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Ethereal 90BG
72/038 cil.ca



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design editor
Blue Ground 210
farrow-ball.com

PHOTOGRAPHY (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) PAUL CHMIELOWIEC, ANGUS FERGUSSON, VIRGINIA MACDONALD, DONNA GRIFFITH


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cool tween hangout

the space A drab room with no storage.

the challenge To turn it into a functional girl's room without blowing the budget.

the result A fun bedroom complete with study and relaxation areas, and storage. **WORDS** HEATHER CAMLOT

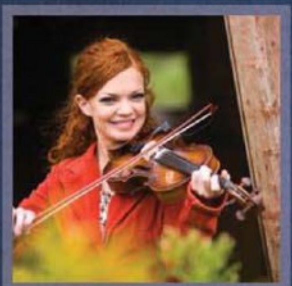


SUITE DREAMS Go bold (not bland) in a child's room. Spring-fresh green and sky blue – painted on opposing walls – bring the room to life and make a big statement for little cost. DIY batik-covered bulletin boards and scrollwork mirrors are used as artwork. An arrangement of rugs is fun. "It looks like you're jumping from lily pad to lily pad or playing hopscotch," says designer Sarah Richardson.

PAINT Clear Sailing 30BG 64/072 and Shy Blossom 10GY 54/238 (walls), Natural White 50YY 83/029 (trim), Mild Wind 70BG 56/061 (nightstand) cil.ca. **BEDS** Malm, **LAMP** Kulla, **GLASS LAMP** Knubbig, **MIRROR FRAME** Ung Drill, **RUGS** Ringum ikea.ca. **NIGHT-STAND HARDWARE** leevalley.com. **LACQUER** torontopaintstore.com. **SPRAY PAINTING** (throughout) Benjamen Furniture Refinishing 416-745-2559. **GINGHAM PILLOWCASE** potterybarnkids.ca. **FABRIC** designerfabrics.ca (drapery); King Textiles 416-504-0600 (pillows, linens). **DRAPERY HARDWARE** invudraperyco.com. **BULLETIN BOARD FRAME** elginpictureandframe.com. **RIBBON** spottedzebragifts.com. →

PHOTOGRAPHY STACEY BRANDFORD






Doers & Dreamers

"I like kids' rooms that have energy and impact – a fun, youthful spirit – but without seeming syrupy and sweet," says designer Sarah Richardson, host of *Sarah's House* (HGTV Canada). She turned a drab room into a cheery tween bedroom (on *Sarah's House 2*), combining her trademark timeless style with pretty, playful picks – all for under $2,500. By reaching into her bag of tricks, including bold fabrics, cool colours and imaginative accessories, she blurred the line between juvenile and adult to create a smart, sophisticated retreat any young lady would be happy to call her own.





FUN FABRIC The inspiration for the bedroom came straight out of the bargain bin at a local fabric store. Sarah bought the Greeff striped glazed cotton, which once retailed for $150 per yard, for a mere $1.99 per yard. Its '60s Palm Beach vibe has the fresh, youthful look she wanted. She created big impact by using the fabric to reupholster the reading chair, a $40 buy at auction.

FABRIC designerfabrics.ca. **SEWING** Dreams Home Fashions 416-596-8489. **CHAIR PAINT** Natural White 50YY 83/029 cil.ca. **CUSHION** alpaca GH Johnson's Trading Co. 416-532-6700. **TABLE** pier1.ca.

INSTANT UPDATE When it came to furnishing this room, Sarah followed the three Rs: reimagine, respray, reupholster. She picked up this solid walnut dresser at auction for $180, and even after updating the colour and hardware, it still came in under $400. "And it's far better quality than any $400 dresser you can possibly hope to buy new," she says. Her auction-going tip: "Test out the item and make sure it's in great shape and is of good quality. It's only a good deal if it's ready for you to add the next layer to it."

DRESSER HARDWARE leevalley.com. **DRESSER PAINT** Mild Wind 70BG 56/061 cil.ca. **LACQUER** torontopaintstore.com. **COAT RACK** Saguro urbanbarn.com. **TOWEL** homesense.ca. →


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ON THE WALLS

Three colour combinations to inspire your next bedroom makeover.



SARAH USED: Clear Sailing 30BG 64/072 (left), Shy Blossom 10GY 54/238 cil.ca

Behr Butternut Wood 710D-6 (left), Bella Pink 210E-1 homedepot.ca

Valspar Daydream Haze CI 182 (left), Tranquility CI 183 lowes.ca





WORK SMART The closetless bedroom needed storage, but an entire wall of closets would have looked too heavy. The solution: build two separate units at either end, with a homework nook in between. "We took a $20 piece of white desktop, some funky cutout legs and shelves from IKEA, and ended up with an innovative desk area," says Sarah. Chalkboard paint blocks on the wall are graphic and handy for writing notes.

DESKTOP Vika Amon, **LEGS** Vika Fintorp, **CHAIR** Jakob, **LAMP** Forsa, **BASKETS** Fryken, **CLOCK** Pugg **GREEN JAR, BLUE BOWLS** Bästis ikea.ca. **TRASH CAN** pc.ca. **PENS, MARKERS, CRAYONS** staples.ca. **CHALKBOARD PAINT** tilano.net.

DYNAMIC DISPLAY Ready-made shelves add a display area and visual interest for a fraction of the cost of built-ins.

SHELVES Ekby Järben, **BRACKETS** Ekby Bjärnum ikea.ca. **GLASS VASES, BOWLS** homesense.ca. **ARTWORK** sarahmerry.com.

"I focus on solutions that capture a child's imagination" SARAH RICHARDSON, DESIGNER

For more budget-friendly decorating ideas, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/TWEEN**

For *Sarah's House* air dates, visit **HGTV.CA**



bright "big-boy" room

the space A toddler's bedroom and adjacent play area.

the challenge Atticus has outgrown his crib, so it's time to turn his nursery into a toddler-ific space and give him more room to play.

the result An unused former kitchen next to the sleeping area is transformed into an organized toy room, with a child-friendly palette uniting both.

WORDS SAMANTHA PYNN, HOST OF HGTV'S *PURE DESIGN*



Instantly update a secondhand bed and nightstand with paint. I chose fresh colours echoed in the striped wall treatment in the toy room seen through the doorway. For the art beside the bed, I covered a canvas with blue paint, then stylist Julia Black used a painter's tape template to create the "A" for Atticus.

PAINT Lyons Red CC-68, Gray Mist CC-80 and Polar Sky CC-790 (stripes), Cloud White CC-40 (background, trim) benjaminmoore.ca. **BED** craigslist.ca. **NIGHTSTAND** Frontier Sales Furniture 416-691-3300. **SPRAY PAINT** Pro Glo Paints 416-462-9300. **SPRAY PAINTING** Benjamen Furniture Refinishing 416-745-2559. **MATTRESS, BOX SPRING** keetsa.ca. **BED LINENS** ikea.ca. **LAMP** potterybarn.ca. **PILLOWS, STUMPS, BLOCKS** ellaandelliot.com. **TEDDY BEAR** hello-sunshine.com. **THROW** kolkid.ca. →

PHOTOGRAPHY VIRGINIA MACDONALD, JOHN QUEENAN (BEFORE). **STYLING** MALCOLM PATTERSON


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STRIPES & STORAGE A blue, red and greige striped wall leads the eye through Atticus's play area, and cues the palette for his hip furnishings. Two shelving units side by side hold toys and books.

STRIPED WALL PAINTING Christopher Paul Custom Painting & Design 416-605-5489. **SHELVING UNITS** Expedit, **WICKER BASKETS** ikea.ca. **LAMP, SCOOTER, CLOTH BOXES** ellaandelliot.com. **BOOKS, HIPPO** babyonthehip.ca. **WOODEN BLOCKS** inquisitivekid.com. **BOOKS** kolkid.ca. **ROBOT BALL, LETTER BLOCKS** hello-sunshine.com. →

For the striped wall how-to, **P 170**





THE PALETTE



PAINT STRIPE
Lyons Red CC-68
benjaminmoore.ca



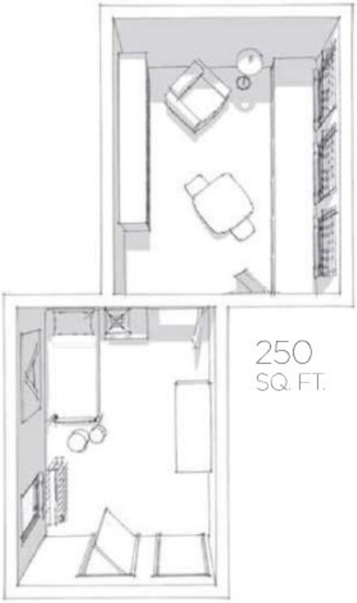
BLINDS
Provenance woven wood Mali Collection in Hickory
hunterdouglas.ca



POLKA-DOT CUSHION FABRIC
Tiddley Winks cotton in Cherry, through designers,
robertallendesign.com

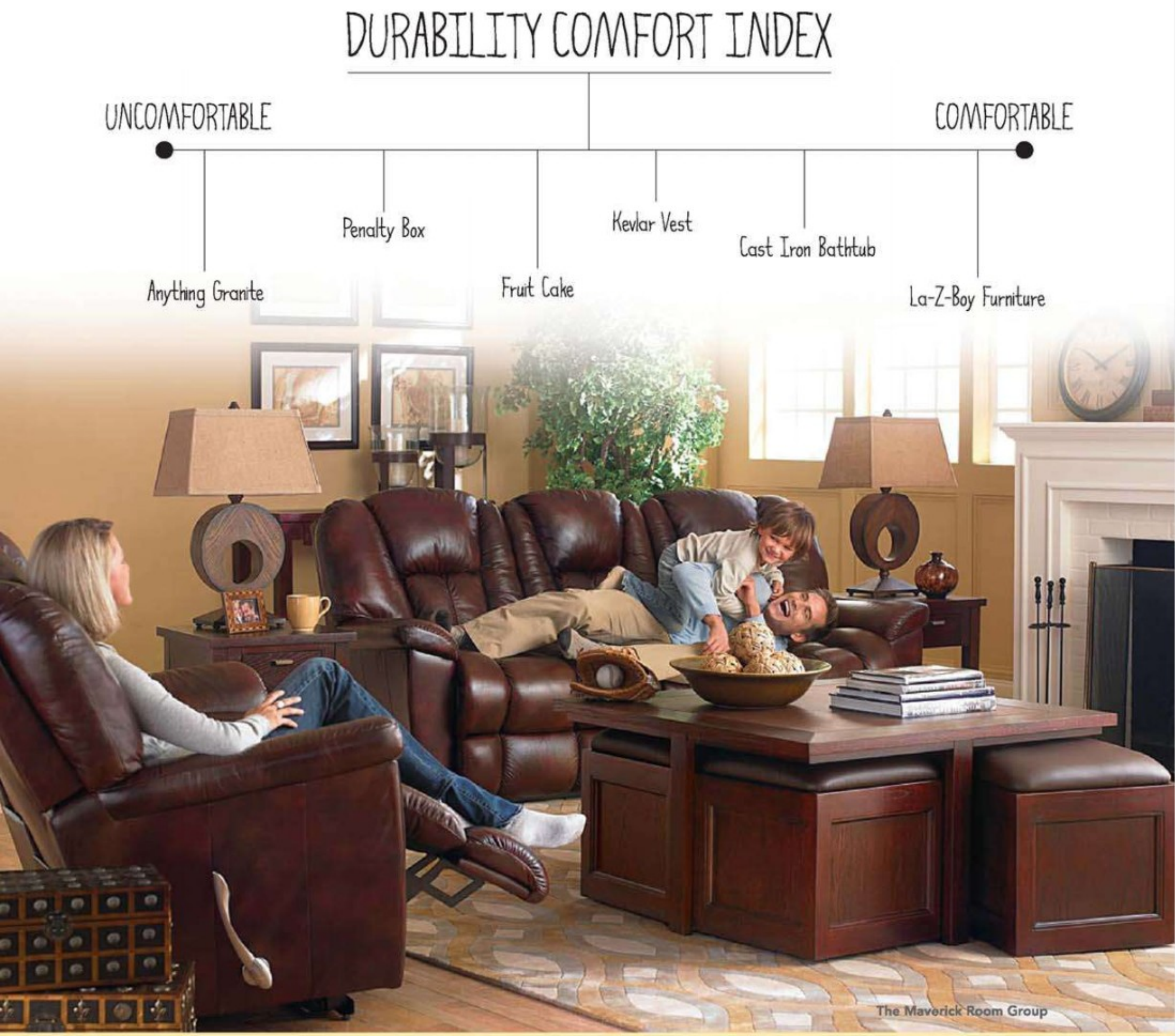


WINDOW SEAT FABRIC
Paolo linen in Bluebell, through designers,
robertallendesign.com



250 SQ. FT.

ILLUSTRATION SCOTT ROGERS



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BUILT-IN BENCH We added a window seat to create a sunny storytime spot. Carpenter Christian Pavey built it using IKEA Odda cubbies topped with plywood. Cot-size cushions can be pulled onto the floor for sleep-overs. Bamboo blinds and a wool rug introduce texture.

BLINDS hunterdouglas.ca. **CARPET** carpetone.com. **VINYL WINDOW INSERTS** jeld-wen.ca. **FABRIC** (striped and patterned cushions, window seat), through designers, robertallendesign.com. **SEWING, WINDOW SEAT FABRICATION** Luxe 416-463-0215. **SOLID CUSHIONS** ikea.ca. **TABLE & STOOL** Ecotots, **BOOKS** babyonthehip.ca.



SAM'S ECO PICKS

NEW INSERTS FOR OLD WINDOWS

Don't demolish old window frames. We replaced drafty windows with insulated Jeld-Wen vinyl inserts – without disturbing original trims and sills. The energy-efficient inserts have a low E coating, which filters UVA rays to protect furniture and walls from sun.

NO-VOC PAINT

We transformed a wooden bed frame and '50s-era bedside table with no-VOC paint. Latex paint is a must, because kids touch (and even lick) everything. Spray painting with no-VOC paint leaves a nice chalky finish.

TOT-FRIENDLY TABLE

The no-tools-assembly Ecotots table and stool set is formaldehyde-free, FSC certified and finished with a water-based stain with a lifetime guarantee. The pieces are the perfect height for sitting, as well as for standing and kneeling – given that toddlers rarely sit! @

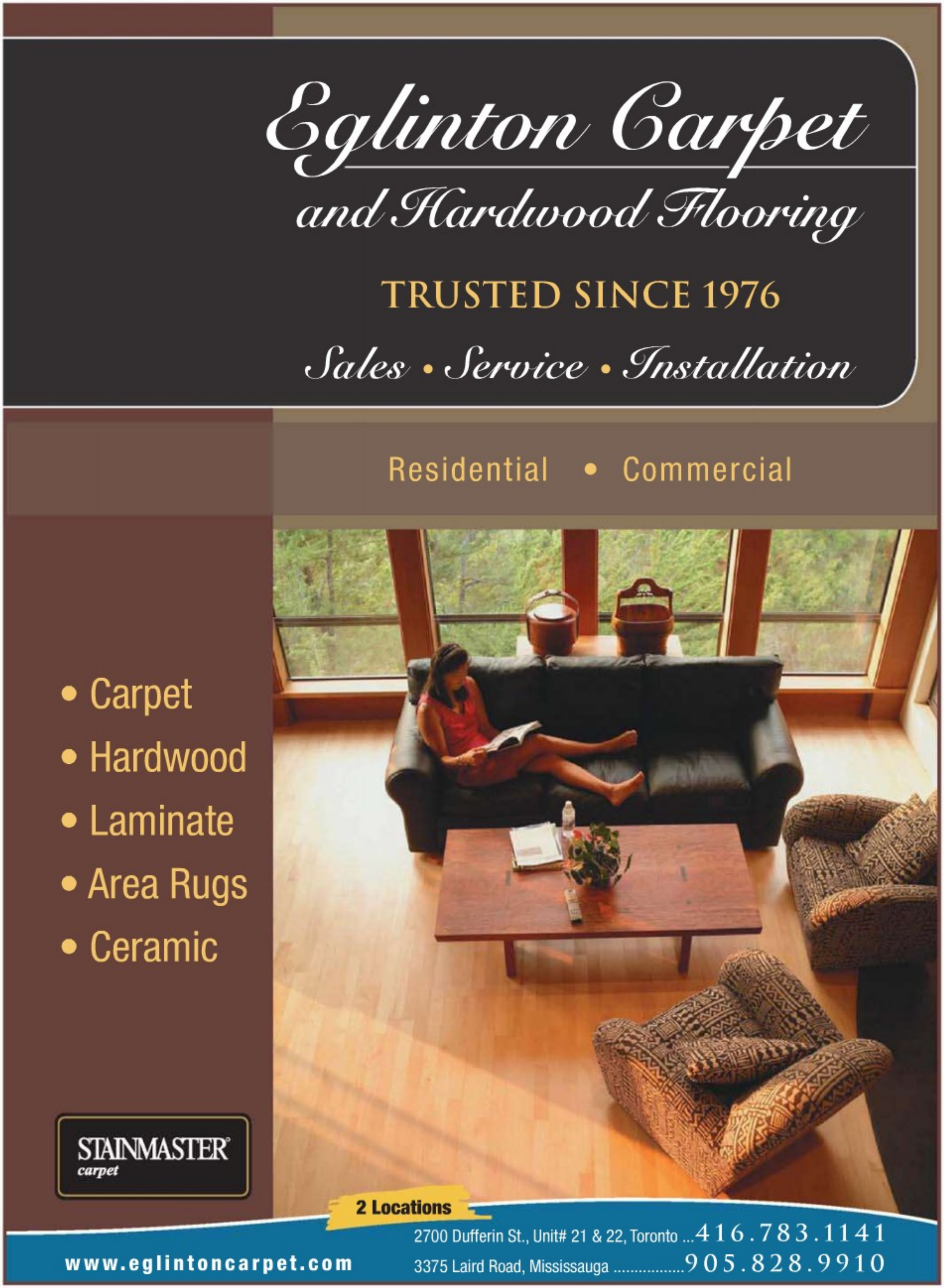
For nursery must-haves and safety considerations, visit **STYLEATHOME.COM/NURSERY**

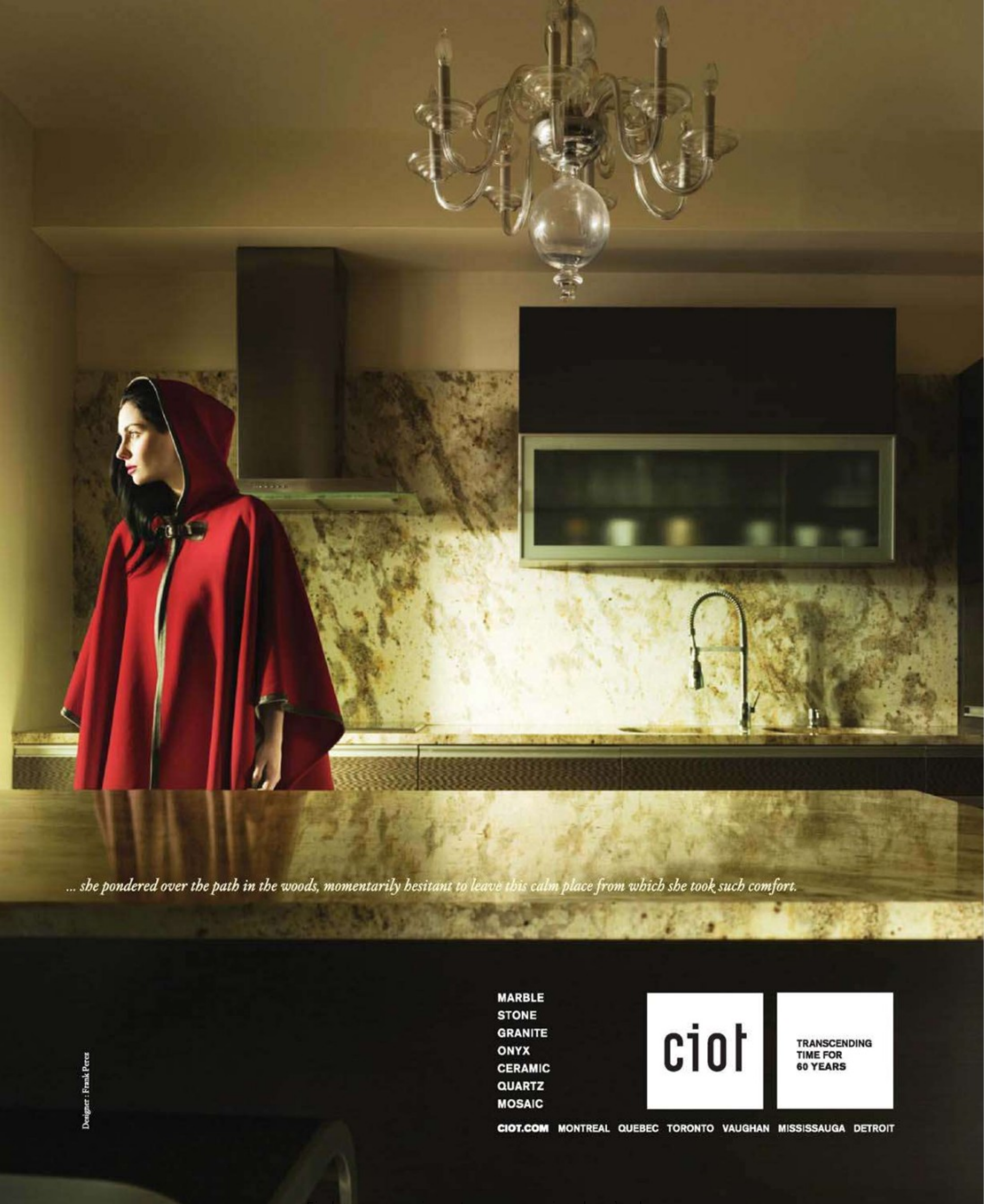


PORTRAIT JOHN QUEENAN

SAMANTHA PYNN, HOST OF HGTV'S *PURE DESIGN* + *STYLE AT HOME* CONTRIBUTING DESIGN EDITOR

ABOUT *PURE DESIGN* We take a green approach to decorating. My team and I transform everyday rooms into sustainable living spaces with tons of personality. **MY METHOD** Rethink what you have, buy vintage, and research green products to make the best choices for you and your family. **CHECK OUT OUR MAKEOVERS** on HGTV. For air dates and times, and for more of my style tips and complete sources, visit hgtv.ca/puredesign.


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... she pondered over the path in the woods, momentarily hesitant to leave this calm place from which she took such comfort.
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Designer : Frank Perez



homes+gardens



SPRING CLEAN

With the help of *Style at Home* design editor Christine Hanlon, a Toronto family refreshes its roost with a colour-confident makeover

WORDS LIZA FINLAY | **PHOTOGRAPHY** DONNA GRIFFITH



FOYER The family's choice in art often dictates their design direction. Here, their love of trees is apparent in the canvases beside the front door, and in the leafy green motif of the rug.

ARTWORK by A. Perron. **TABLE** ChairTableLamp 416-934-1021. **RUG** ycocarpet.com.

EXTERIOR A charming flagstone path meanders up to the stately ivy-swathed Georgian-style home.

"Freshen it up" was the owner's directive when she teamed up with *Style at Home* design editor Christine Hanlon to give her traditional home a fashion facelift. Without swinging a single sledgehammer, the pair made changes that transformed a classic, conservative interior into one more befitting this young, fun, free-spirited family.

"The house is old, with lots of beautiful original detailing, but the interior was very neutral and safe," says Christine, whose first order of business was to inject fresh green and blue (the homeowner's favourite colours) into the interior. Then, using paint, paper and some punchy finishing touches, she put the polish on somewhat staid spaces, bringing this dignified home back in touch with its daring side. →



DINING ROOM "I call this the 'stolen room,'" says the homeowner, "because almost everything in it was stolen from someone else." The table, from a friend, was given new life with a fresh coat of paint; the Chinese bird prints were found in her sister's closet and simply reframed; the china was her great-grandmother's.

PAINT Pitch Black 256 (table), Pointing 2003 (trim) farrow-ball.com. **DRAPERY** Mallory Pistachio silk invudraperyco.com. **RUG** elte.com. **CHAIRS** eddo.biz. **CHANDELIER** rousseaus.ca.



FEMININE TOUCH The formerly cocoa walls were papered, adding sophisticated, springlike freshness to the once-dark space. "I really like the touches of pink in the accessories and the chandelier," says the homeowner. "We have three girls, so a bit of femininity feels natural."

WALLPAPER Silvergate Papers 833 farrow-ball.com. **BUFFET** ethanallen.com. **PINK VASES** ikea.ca. →

PRINTS CHARMING "I tried 10 different drapery panels before I found these," says the homeowner of her toile drapes. To tie them in with the room's palette, *Style at Home* design editor Christine Hanlon customized the ready-mades with green grosgrain ribbon sewn along the edges.

DRAPERY Confection Charcoal cotton, **RIBBON** Apple, **ZEBRA CUSHION** Tunisia Black linen, **SEWING** invudraperyco.com.

LIVING ROOM The mantel was painted a highgloss black, making the fireplace more of a focal point. Christine tempered the room's traditional tone with hits of animal print. "Adding an overhead ceiling fixture like this lantern (on a dimmer) lends an intimate feel to the space," she says.

PAINT Clunch 2009 (walls), Off Black 57 (mantel) farrow-ball.com. **SEWING & UPHOLSTERY** invudraperyco.com. **TRELLIS FABRIC** Schumacher Kelly Wearstler Imperial Trellis in Treillage/Ivory, through designers, bilbroughs.com. **LANTERN** ChairTableLamp 416-934-1021. **LAMP** ethanallen.com. **SOFAS** theartshoppe.com. **WHITE CUSHION** ycocarpet.com. **THROWS** angusandcompany.com. **ARTWORK** *Calm* by Connie Geerts canvasgallery.ca. **BOOKCASE** Manor 416-544-1700. →



1,600 SQ. FT.
MAIN FLOOR



WHY THIS ROOM WORKS

Designer Christine Hanlon shares her formula for refreshing this living room.

Christine let the room's symmetrical architecture inform her floor plan. "It's an approach I call **'squaring it up,'**" she says, noting the mirror-image effect of the twin sofas centred around the fireplace, which creates a cosy conversation area.

Colour and pattern are introduced in chic accessories, while larger-scale investment pieces remain neutral. "Cushions and throws are a great way to dress up plain upholstered furniture," Christine says.

By **grouping the furniture in the centre of the room,** Christine improved the flow of this high-traffic zone. "French doors flank the fireplace and lead to the patio," she says, "so it was important to keep those paths open."

The black fireplace grounds the space, but the **colour needed repeating elsewhere in the room** to really gel, says Christine. "That's where the zebra print came from." Similarly, the green in the lattice-print fabric is repeated in the throws, artwork and drapery trim.

ILLUSTRATION SCOTT ROGERS



"A touch of green can really crisp up a room" HOMEOWNER



KITCHEN Christine dressed the window in the much-loved drapery fabric used in the adjoining family room, and then painted the island a bold Jasperware blue. "It really made sense," says the homeowner. "Once the blues had been introduced in the family room, it became crystal clear that was the way to go with the island, too."

ISLAND PAINT Dix Blue 82 farrow-ball.com. **FABRIC** Ohana Eau De Nil linen (drapery), Square Pegs in Kiwi (seat cushions), **SEWING** invudraperyco.com. **CHANDELIER** royallighting.com. **FAUCET** homedepot.ca. **CLOCHE** designfx.ca.

Check out Christine's mood board for this makeover, **P 164**



FAMILY ROOM While soft greens dominate elsewhere, here Christine brought in the homeowner's favourite shade of blue, echoing the one used in the coach house that lies just outside the family room doors. The drapes were finished with a valance for a little polish in an otherwise informal room.

FABRIC Ohana Eau De Nil linen (toile drapery and cushions), Circa Aqua Marine linen (chair), **CHAIR PIPING** Circa Citrine linen, **SEWING & UPHOLSTERY** invudraperyco.com. **SOFA** rowefurniture.com. **TABLES, MIRROR, LAMPS** potterybarn.ca. **RUG, IKAT CUSHIONS** Madeline Weinrib ycocarpet.com. →



GUEST ROOM The "ugliest room in the house" – absolutely everything got pitched in there for storage – now glows in brilliant white. The green accents reference the palette running through the rest of the house.

WALL PAINT All White 2005 farrow-ball.com. **TABLE** ChairTableLamp 416-934-1021. **BED LINENS** aulitfinelinens.com. **ACCENT CUSHIONS** Labyrinth Lime linen invudraperyco.com. **RUG** ycocarpet.com.



MASTER BEDROOM The slightly masculine room offers an escape from both the family-friendly decor and the feminine flourishes elsewhere. Crisp and clean was the mantra, and here that dictum is more delightfully pronounced with the bold black bed and accents.

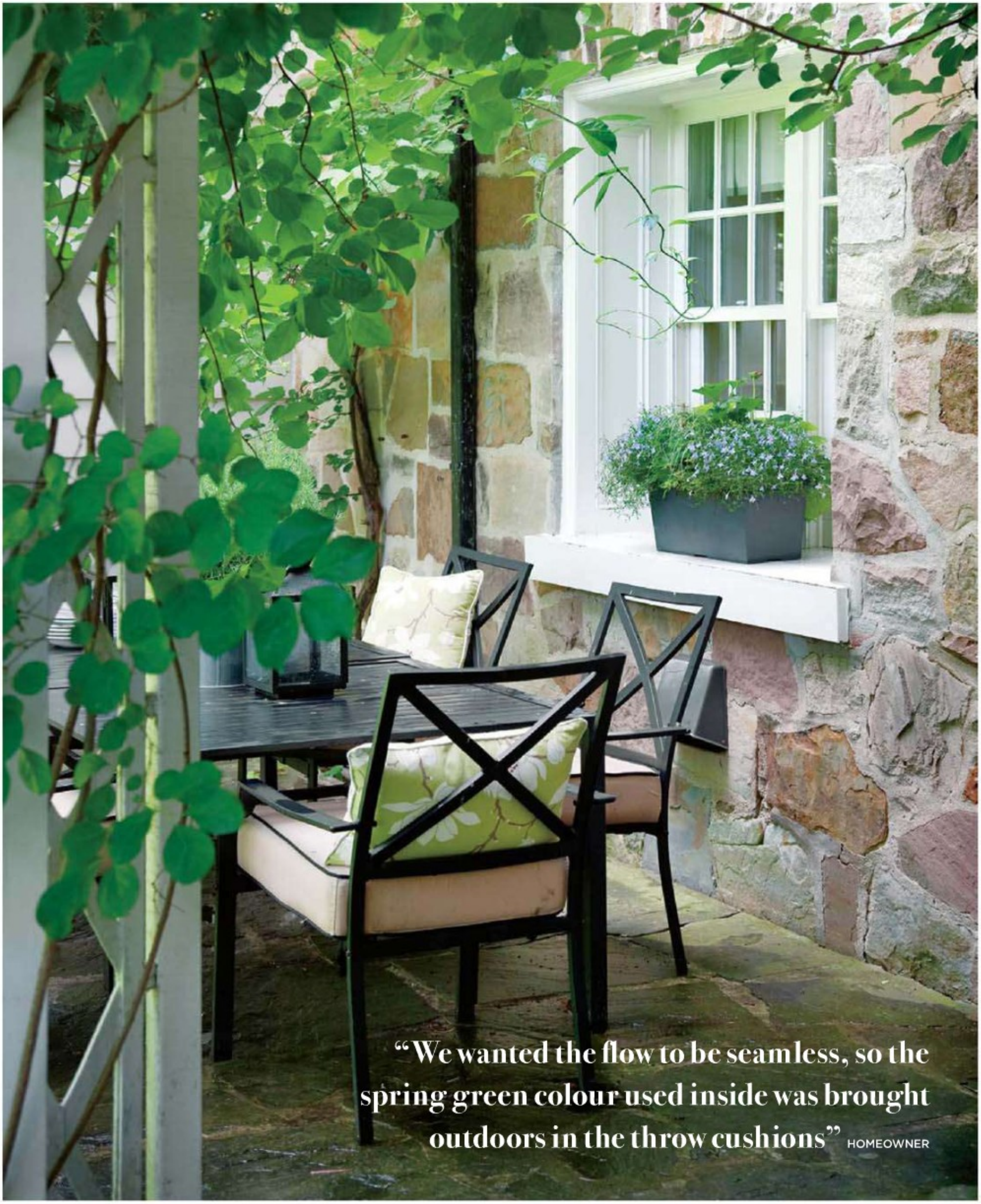
COWHIDE Koldby, **CHAIRS** Ektorp ikea.ca. **BED LINENS** aulitfinelinens.com. **LAMP** angusandcompany.com. **DRAPERY** Shannon Oyster invudraperyco.com. **ARTWORK** Paris map print ethanallen.com. →

"The bedroom has a contemporary-classic vibe that feels right with the rest of the house" CHRISTINE HANLON, S@H DESIGN EDITOR



GREAT OUTDOORS The homeowners spend a lot of time in their garden, whether seeking shade under the wisteria vine or dining alfresco.

CUSHIONS homesense.ca. **NAPKINS** angusandcompany.com.



"We wanted the flow to be seamless, so the spring green colour used inside was brought outdoors in the throw cushions" HOMEOWNER

COLOUR variations

Sometimes all you need is a little colour to make a big impact

PRODUCER CHRISTINE HANLON | **PHOTOGRAPHY** EDWARD POND





PINK DELICACIES

SHADES OF PINK ARE FEMININE AND BOLD, TOO.

FROM FAR LEFT: VASE Chinese ceramic $595 per pair, FIGURINE Royal Doulton Camilla $325, JAR lilac ornamental $495 cynthiafindlay.com. BOTTLE Sophie Cook matte pink small $305, POD Sophie Cook matte pink medium $385, VASES Michael Anchin glass in Cherry $195 each hollacecluny.ca. BOWL cased cranberry rose $145 cynthiafindlay.com. →

"Pure white has that look-at-me quality, especially when paired with a hit of yellow"

CHRISTINE HANLON, S@H DESIGN EDITOR



ENCHANTING DUO

WHITE AND YELLOW ARE A STRIKING AND FRESH COMBINATION.

FROM LEFT: **VASE** Klein Reid Hawthorne Linden 14" in Curry Yellow $180 hollacecluny.ca. **VASE** Arthur Wood ceramic $225, **JUG** Devon Gurgler $195, **FIGURINE** Royal Worcester porcelain bird $495 cynthiafindlay.com. **FABRIC** (background and on table) Slubby Linen in Steel $40 per yard designerfabrics.ca.



ETHEREAL BLUES

MIDTONE BLUES ARE COOL AND LUMINOUS.

FROM LEFT: VASE Mr Mallet Medium in turquoise $400, LAMP BASE Murano glass $1,895 per pair cynthiafindlay.com. ART GLASS $95 putti.ca. FABRIC Newport B Azure (background) $26 per yard, Polytitan 113 Aqua (on table) $21 per yard designerfabrics.ca.



pattern play

If the thought of decorating with colour and pattern scares you, just take a look at how this designer's fun approach paid off in her dynamic and inviting home

WORDS SHERYL STEINBERG | **PHOTOGRAPHY** STACEY BRANDFORD





NATALIE HODGINS, SENIOR DESIGNER AT SARAH RICHARDSON DESIGN

Natalie Hodgins wasn't trying to make a point by painting the living room pink in the three-storey Victorian row house she shares with husband Chris Binney and their two young children. "It was one of those happy accidents," says the enthusiastic senior designer at Sarah Richardson Design. She ended up using the shade as part of a vibrant, sophisticated palette. "We don't get a lot of natural light – colour really helps brighten up our home." Besides, she adds, she felt she owed it to her clients. "If I'm going to push them to use colour, I should do it myself." →


VOGUE



LIVING ROOM Though the room is only about 120 sq. ft., it has space-enhancing 10' high ceilings. Natalie maxed out on seating, choosing neutral fabrics with colourful accents that are easy and inexpensive to change.

OTTOMAN Jake sarahrichardsondesign.com. **RUG** Tibetan, **LAMPS, LAMP TABLE** elte.com.

DETAILS, DETAILS "I love pink and orange, so I tried them together," says Natalie. The trick is to find the right combo. Crystal buttons on cushions, silver candleholders and glass vases add interest and sparkle. "It's like putting on earrings with an outfit," she says.

LIVING ROOM PALETTE

FABRIC (clockwise from top) **SEAT CUSHIONS** Hable Textiles Tide in Jaipur H09-13/88 ycocarpet.com. **THROW CUSHIONS** Romo Ismene in Fuchsia 7192/09, through designers, bilbroughs.com. **OTTOMAN** Gastón y Daniela Acapulco Lino, through designers, leejofa.com. **WALL PAINT** Intense Pink 68RR 33/393 icipaints.ca. →





WHY THIS ROOM WORKS

Designer Natalie Hodgins shares her refreshing formula.

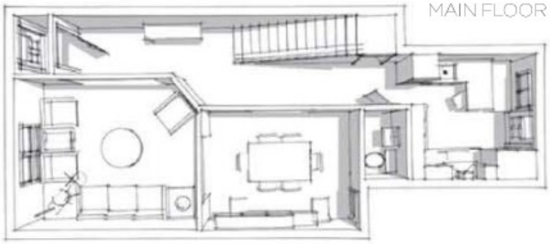
Fresh, fab floral ottoman fabric – a splurge that only required two yards!

The Tibetan rug ties together many colours and hides spills and stains.

Bold pink walls lend warmth and pizzazz and can easily be repainted.

Ten different fabrics add up to a rich visual feast that beautifully complements the elements in the room.

585 SQ. FT.
MAIN FLOOR



"Accessories are a great way to incorporate colour without making a huge commitment"

NATALIE HODGINS, OWNER + DESIGNER



DINING ROOM Space-saving mid-century modern floating shelves (which once hung above Natalie's father-in-law's office desk) are perfect for displaying treasured china and silverware.

TABLE upcountry.com. **CHAIRS** Nik sarahrichardsondesign.com. **RUG** elte.com.

DINING ROOM PALETTE

WALLPAPER Romo Simoni Alpine W93/04, through designers, bilbroughs.com. **CHAIR FABRIC** Wayne Bronson in Platinum designerfabrics.ca. **WALL PAINT** White Down CC-50 benjaminmoore.ca. →

WHY THIS ROOM WORKS

Designer Natalie Hodgins shares her refreshing formula.

A pretty Persian rug provides a starting point for choosing accent colours.

Glam floral foil wallpaper is dazzling. Covering one wall easily brightens up the space.

Pinkish tones in the rug and artwork subtly unify this room with the adjoining living room.

Silver and glass elements echo the shimmery wallpaper.

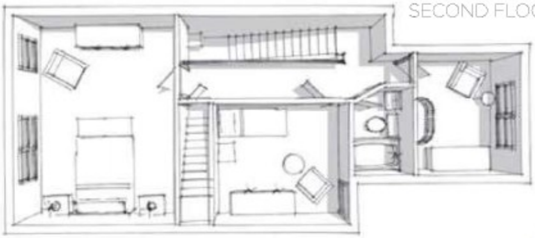
ILLUSTRATIONS SCOTT ROGERS. **PHOTOGRAPHY** VIRGINIA MACDONALD (FABRICS)











585 SQ. FT.
SECOND FLOOR

MASTER BEDROOM A harmonious medley of pattern makes the bed a strong focal point. The artwork – a gift from Natalie's workmates – inspired the green accent wall behind the bed.

BENCH Genevieve sarahrichardsondesign.com. **ARTWORK** Magnolia Series by Sharon Barr canvasgallery.ca. **LAMP** Decorum Decorative Finds 416-966-6829.

THE ART OF COLOUR Glassware and other accessories are great sources of colour and simple ways to reinforce the room's palette.

BEDROOM PALETTE

FABRIC (clockwise from left) **STRIPED PILLOW** Dupion strié in Salmon Rose, **DRAPERY** Arezzo F044 in Ivory designerfabrics.ca. **SQUARE PILLOWS** Schumacher Kashan Paisley in Gemstone, through designers, bilbroughs.com. **PAINT** Fennel 70YY 621/182 (accent wall), French White 50YY 73/075 (walls) cil.ca.





WHY THIS ROOM WORKS

Designer Natalie Hodgins shares her refreshing formula.

Stripes, solids and paisleys in similar palettes are pretty and soothing.

A green accent wall and white walls make for an invitingly soft combo.

Ivory drapes balance all the colour and add a light, ethereal feel.

open-air LIVING





TERRACE **1,600 SQ. FT.**

DESIGNER APPROACH

family functional

A neglected backyard is transformed into an outdoor room that works for everyone

WORDS GILLIAN CUMMINGS

PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREAS TRAUTTMANSDORFF

We'd almost stopped going outside. With its unappealing patio and ramshackle shed, our 34' x 48' garden belonged to the overgrown shrubs, not to us. Even the lawn had quit, worn away by two badminton-loving girls. One brilliant design later, we now recline in the sun. We also dine under the stars, curl up on rainy days, hide away our bikes, bins and tools, and enjoy glorious blossoms spring, summer and fall. We even dance out here!

We have Bill Chandler, of Chandler & Company, to thank for this Georgian-style garden retreat inspired by our home's architecture. Bill erected a pavilion where the original garage stood decades before, adding a beautiful columned porch. Separate storage rooms at either end of the building flank a high-ceilinged sitting room. Two terraces form the garden's centrepiece. "The yard has become a comfortable, dynamic space that takes advantage of the garden's width," says Bill. Perimeter pathways and planting beds enclose the terraces, surrounding us in flowers. There's magic in this design: adding the building to our little garden has actually made it feel larger.



ILLUSTRATION SCOTT ROGERS

DINING TERRACE I was anxious about paving over so much of the backyard, but contrasting materials in size and colour helps vary the look. Small, creamy Brussels Block brick defines the seating areas.

DESIGN Chandler & Company 416-265-3533. **TABLE, CHAIRS** fresh.ca. **BRICK** unilock.com.

GARDEN ROOM For a cottage look, I whitewashed the plywood walls and chair rail so the grain shows. I found the scalloped table on sale at my friend Paige's shop, Wildbird. The inexpensive art prints feature plants found in my garden.

PLYWOOD Southern yellow pine exterior centralfairbank.com. **TABLE** Wildbird 416-484-4080. **TABLE LAMP** decorium.ca. **RUG** seagrass potterybarn.ca. **PRINTS** ikea.ca. →



BUILDING BEAUTY

Perfect your garden room design with these ideas from owner Gillian Cummings.

introduce your home's materials

Whether you rework an existing garage or build new, keep architecture and materials consistent for a harmonious overall look. The red brick, slatelike roof tiles, wrought iron, French doors and white trim continue our home's aesthetic within the garden.

use it for three seasons, admire it for four

Since the sitting room isn't heated, it's simply used for garden furniture storage in the winter, but even then, it's still a focal point from our house. Add architectural charm, such as a porch, columns or iron grates, for visual enjoyment in the colder months.

incorporate pathways

Think beyond a sitting room and terrace zones. Pathways in our garden lead from the driveway, back to the tool room, along a holly hedge to the trellis, and past a peony border to our home's garden door. All these routes and destinations make this small garden seem bigger.

TRELLIS I had to be talked into painting this 14' x 8' trellis white, but it provides much-needed visual balance opposite the pavilion. It also creates a horizontal leading line for the eye across the garden's largest dimension. Beautiful 'Little Lamb' hydrangeas encourage me to linger.

TRELLIS Chandler & Company 416-265-3533. **TRELLIS PAINT** Cloud White CC-40 benjaminmoore.ca. **FLAGSTONE** The Stone Yard 416-759-9084. **HYDRANGEAS** sheridannurseries.com.

YEAR-ROUND BEAUTY Carefully considered choices ensure constant blooms. Pink roses climb the trellis all summer but give way in September to a more delicate show that I love: the miniature white blossoms of 'Sweet Autumn' clematis.

TERRACE Enjoying coffee and a weekend paper here makes my husband's morning. Hydrangeas on three sides create a sense of enclosure within the calm of white impatiens.

CHAISES fresh.ca. **LANTERN** restorationhardware.com.







THE VIEW This pretty scene from my kitchen window shows how a great design can be enjoyed inside as well. Wrought-aluminum furniture is light and easy to move, especially when entertaining.

TABLE, CHAIRS fresh.ca. **PLACEMATS, NAPKINS** countrystoreonline.ca. →





COURTYARD **225 SQ. FT.**

DIY APPROACH

entertaining ease

A concrete parking pad becomes a multifunctional gathering place

WORDS KATHLEEN DORE

PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL GRAYDON

The transformation of Paul Vivian and Mark Pundzius's 12' x 19' garden from a concrete parking spot to a classically styled courtyard with cooking, entertaining and gardening zones is miraculous. Despite health challenges, Paul worked in the garden over the course of six summers. "At moments, the fully formed garden would come into my head, then Mark would help refine the ideas," he says. "While out there one day at 5 a.m., I realized I had no desire to change or move anything. Our garden was perfect. It was one of my happiest moments." The process and the result, he says, has made their garden a truly healing space.

EATING AREA "It was Mark's idea to have curved railings," says owner Paul Vivian. "They add a sense of entrance." The sweeping lines also balance all the squares. The original porch worked, so the couple just expanded it. "The raised barbecue area is out of the way of the socializing area," says Paul. The elevation change increases the garden's functionality and creates an expansive feel. Paul backed the layered latticework with solid wood, tin and mirror, and hung a valance for privacy. A collapsible table hangs on the side of the house when not in use.

LOVESEAT, CHAIRS andrewricharddesigns.com. **CUSHION COVERS** Ritva, **CUSHION INSERTS** Fjädrar, **PLACEMATS** Soaré, **BOWLS** Färgrik Högst ikea.ca.

ILLUSTRATION SCOTT ROGERS



GATE Built from scrap lumber and fence board, the door is finished with ironwork hardware, and mirror-backed lattice, which is used throughout the space. Mirror visually expands the garden, amplifies light and blurs the line between indoor and outdoor decorating. "At night, candlelight bounces all over the garden," says Paul. To complement that effect, he and Mark chose a variety of lighting elements, including uplights, ships' lanterns and tea lights.

HARDWARE homedepot.ca. **LANTERN** Trinity Gallery 416-699-6372. →



CREATING COMFORT

Ensure your outdoor space is inviting with these tips from owners Paul Vivian and Mark Pundzius.

make room to relax
Dividing your garden into separate zones based on function will give it a homey feel.

don't mix decorating styles
By sticking to one theme in a small garden, you'll end up with a cohesive, refined look.

play with light
Vary the vibe using different types of lighting – it will differentiate zones even more.

keep it cosy
With lots of outdoor furniture on the market, what matters is choosing sturdy, comfortable pieces.

"We knew we needed multiple layers to add depth to our small garden. The latticework does that" PAUL VIVIAN, OWNER



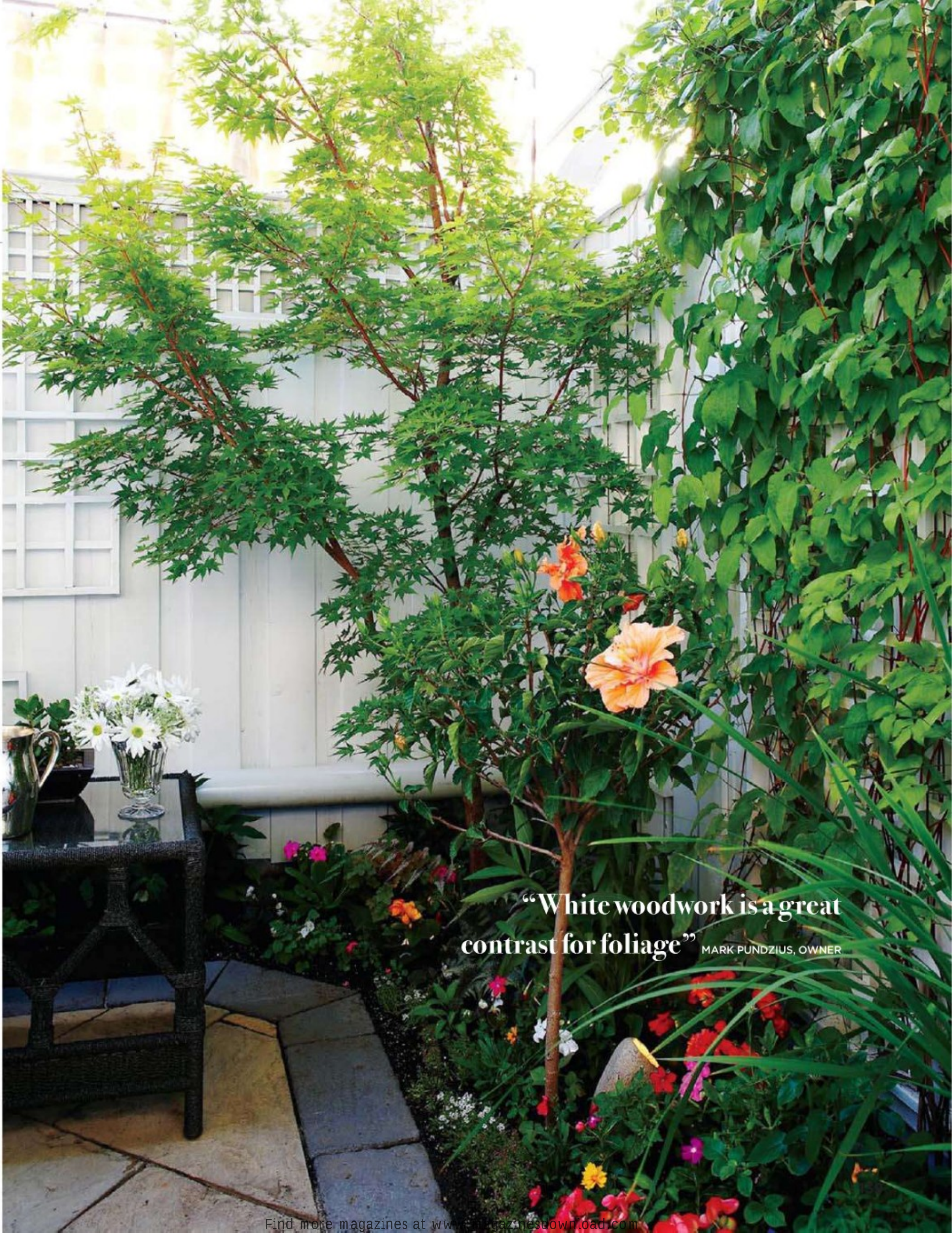
SCULPTURAL ACCENT This ornate fountain, flanked by two simple sconces, forms a strong focal point. Because it sits on the fence, it doesn't eat up valuable floor space. Siberian iris, clematis and ivy give height to the border; annuals fill out the garden at ground level.

FOUNTAIN L'Atelier 416-966-0200. **SCONCES** The Victorian Shoppe 416-698-5547.

EYE CANDY Pretty potted impatiens brighten the eating area.

BORDER Maximizing growing space was key. The perimeter of the patio (with tiles set on the diagonal to visually expand the space) is lined with beds, but why stop there? "The walls act as garden space," says Mark, who grew 'Moonlight' climbing hydrangea and various clematis on the lattice. The Japanese maple provides all-important height and livens up a corner of the garden. "Don't be afraid of using trees in a small space," says Paul. "They ground the garden," adds Mark. With its sheltered space, the light-amplifying white woodwork, and the heat-holding patio tiles and crushed garden stone (beneath the tiles), the garden has its own microclimate, he says.

MANUFACTURED STONE stone-link.com. **END TABLE** andrewricharddesigns.com.



"White woodwork is a great contrast for foliage" MARK PUNDZIUS, OWNER

Fast, fabulous recipes & beautiful entertaining ideas

BRUNCH FOR *friends*

Spend a relaxed weekend morning enjoying this light, tasty spring brunch from Donna Hay

PHOTOGRAPHY CHRIS COURT | **STYLING** STEVE PEARCE





SOFT POACHED EGGS WITH SWEET POTATO HASH BROWNS + ASPARAGUS P 144

swiss cheese, spinach + ham brioches

16 slices brioche
1 tbsp (15 mL) Dijon mustard
16 slices (4 oz/125 g) Swiss cheese
8 slices cooked ham
3 oz (80 g) baby spinach leaves
melted butter, for brushing

Spread half of the brioche slices with the mustard. Top with the cheese, ham and spinach and sandwich with the remaining brioche.

Heat a large nonstick frying pan over medium heat. Brush both sides of the sandwiches with butter and cook for 2-3 minutes each side or until golden and the cheese has melted. **SERVES 4**

PREPARATION PLAN

DAY BEFORE

Shop for fresh fruit, vegetables, bread, juice and flowers.

Make the horseradish sauce and store in the refrigerator.

IN THE MORNING

Set the table with cups and saucers; arrange flowers.

Assemble the brioches; cover and refrigerate.

Make the cinnamon rolls.

Rinse and trim the asparagus, ready to blanch.

BEFORE GUESTS ARRIVE

Make the hash brown mixture and keep warm.

Set out juice, fruit, yogurt and muesli for guests to help themselves.

Warm the rolls in the oven at a low temperature.

WHEN GUESTS ARRIVE

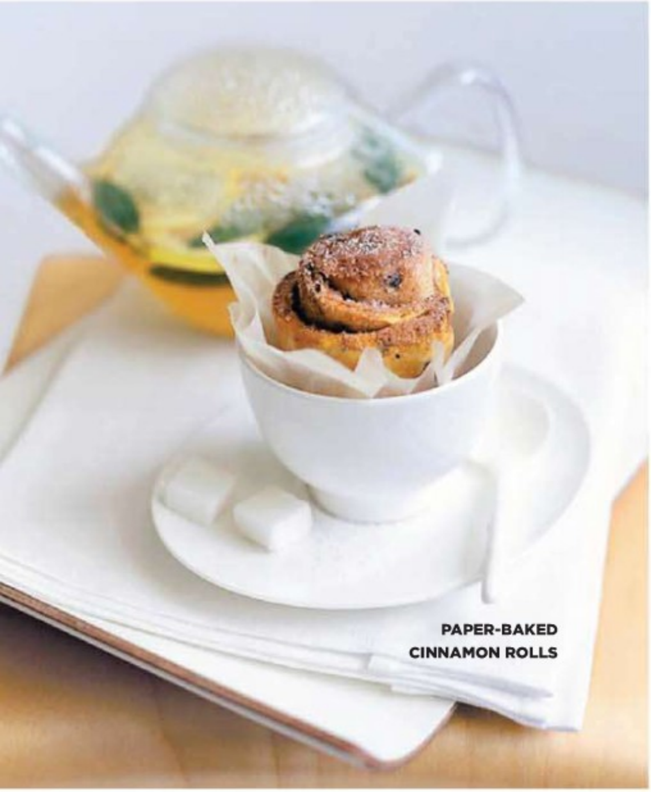
Serve coffee, tea and juice.

Blanch the asparagus, poach the eggs and assemble with the hash browns and horseradish sauce.

Pan-fry the brioches and prepare to serve. →



RECIPES JANE COLLINGS. **PROPS STYLING** ELODIE RAMBAUD



PAPER-BAKED CINNAMON ROLLS

paper-baked cinnamon rolls

½ cup (125 mL) granulated sugar
½ tsp (2 mL) ground cinnamon
pinch each ground cloves, nutmeg and allspice
1¾ cups (425 mL) all-purpose flour, sifted
1¾ tsp (9 mL) baking powder, sifted
½ cup (125 mL) pitted and chopped dates
½ cup (125 mL) whipping cream
½ cup (125 mL) milk
2 tbsp (30 mL) butter, melted, for brushing

Preheat oven to 180°C (350°F). Combine the sugar, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and allspice and set aside. Place the flour, baking powder and dates in a bowl and stir to combine. Make a well in the centre and gradually add the cream and milk, stirring, until a soft dough forms.

Turn out onto a lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and elastic. Roll out to 12" x 15" (30 x 40 cm). Brush with butter and sprinkle with the sugar mixture, reserving 1 tbsp (15 mL). Roll up the dough to enclose and slice into 8 pieces. Place the dough into eight x ½-cup (125 mL) capacity muffin tins lined with parchment paper. Brush with butter and sprinkle with the reserved sugar. Bake for 25 minutes or until golden. **MAKES 8**

soft poached eggs with sweet potato hash browns + asparagus

10 oz (300 g) sweet potato, peeled and grated
6 eggs
sea salt and cracked black pepper
vegetable oil, for shallow frying
1 tbsp (15 mL) white vinegar
16 spears asparagus, trimmed and blanched

creamy horseradish sauce
1 tbsp (15 mL) finely grated horseradish
¼ cup (60 mL) sour cream
2 tsp (10 mL) lemon juice
sea salt and cracked black pepper

To make the creamy horseradish sauce, place the grated horseradish, sour cream, lemon juice, salt and pepper in a small bowl and stir to combine. Set aside.

Place the sweet potato, 2 eggs, salt and pepper in a bowl and mix well to combine. Heat ½" (1 cm) of oil in a nonstick frying pan over medium heat. Cook ¼-cup (60 mL) mounds of the sweet potato mixture for 2-3 minutes per side or until golden and crispy. Drain on paper towels and keep warm.

Heat a few inches of water in a deep frying pan over low heat until just simmering. Add the vinegar and use a wooden spoon to create a whirlpool. Crack each egg into a bowl and slip into the water. Poach for 3-4 minutes. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain well. Top the hash browns with the asparagus and eggs and spoon the creamy horseradish sauce over the top to serve. **SERVES 4** @



DONNA HAY, FOOD EDITOR

MY PHILOSOPHY
Start simple. There's no need to get too complicated. Basically, you've just got to get in there and do it. It's not about how many ingredients you use – it's about their quality and freshness.

PORTRAIT GARY HEERY

fast five

Donna Hay's fresh quickies for every night of the week



1 | **HONEY MUSTARD LAMB**

PHOTOGRAPHY WILLIAM MEPPEM | **STYLING** JUSTINE POOLE + STEVE PEARCE

RECIPES JUSTINE POOLE + STEVE PEARCE



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PARMESAN OMELETTE | 2



3 | BEEF BURRITOS



LEMON + ASPARAGUS CHICKEN | 4



5 | GINGER SHRIMP

1 | honey mustard lamb

Combine 1 tbsp (15 mL) of Dijon mustard with 2 tbsp (30 mL) each of honey and olive oil. Brush over lamb chops or cutlets and grill under a broiler until cooked to your liking. Serve with steamed green beans and broccolini, or an arugula salad.

2 | parmesan omelette

Place 2 egg yolks, 2 tbsp (30 mL) milk and 1 tbsp (15 mL) of grated Parmesan cheese in a bowl and whisk to combine. Whisk 2 egg whites until soft peaks form and fold into the yolk mixture. Melt butter in a nonstick frying pan, add the egg and cook over medium heat until the base is golden. Fold in half and serve with a green salad.

3 | beef burritos

Brown 8 oz (250 g) ground beef with chopped onion and garlic and 1 tsp (5 mL) of chili powder. Add a can of chopped tomatoes and cook until thickened. Stir through chopped coriander (cilantro) and serve with burritos or tacos, lettuce and fresh tomato.

4 | lemon + asparagus chicken

Roast halved new potatoes in 400°F (200°C) oven for 20-25 minutes. Top with chicken pieces brushed with oil and roast for 20 minutes. Scatter asparagus spears and lemon wedges in pan. Sprinkle thyme over top. Roast for another 15 minutes.

5 | ginger shrimp

Cook 1 sliced onion with 1 tbsp (15 mL) of peanut oil. Add 8 oz (250 g) peeled jumbo shrimp and 1 tbsp (15 mL) grated ginger and cook until the shrimp are pink and opaque. Add 7 oz (200 g) cooked egg noodles, ¼ cup (60 mL) oyster sauce and a handful of mint and toss to combine. →

ALL RECIPES SERVE 2


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fast picks

Our in-house wine expert, Konrad Ejbich, selects an ideal match for your dinner tonight



honey mustard lamb

PAIRING Lamb beckons for the sturdiness and dark fruit flavours of Cabernet. Try it in a blend like Bordeaux or Meritage. **KONRAD'S PICKS** Southbrook Cabernet-Merlot-Shiraz 2006 $15 (Ontario); Sumac Ridge Cabernet Merlot 2007 $15 (British Columbia)





parmesan omelette

PAIRING Think of an omelette as the original "foamed" egg – whipped before it's poured into the pan to make it airy. Match the lightness with a wine that's exceptionally delicate, refreshing and citrusy, i.e., sparkling wine. **KONRAD'S PICK** Giovello Prosecco, Italy $15





beef burritos

PAIRING Burgers and burritos are equally comfortable with a light ale, a dry full-bodied rosé or a fruity red. Italian reds have the edge when it comes to acidity – key to refreshing your palate between bites. **KONRAD'S PICK** Spinelli Malbec 2007, Italy $8





lemon + asparagus chicken

PAIRING Chicken is a base flavour here, so match your wine with the earthy, green, citrus and herbal flavours of asparagus, lemon and thyme. Look for a white with floral, musky or smoky notes. **KONRAD'S PICK** Dunavar Muscat 2008, Hungary $8





ginger shrimp

PAIRING Balance the bite of ginger and the fragrance of mint with a barely dry, aromatic white such as Riesling, Gewürztraminer or Grüner Veltliner. **KONRAD'S PICK** Wolf Blass Yellow Label Riesling 2008, Australia $15 @



FOOD PHOTOGRAPHY WILLIAM MEPPEM

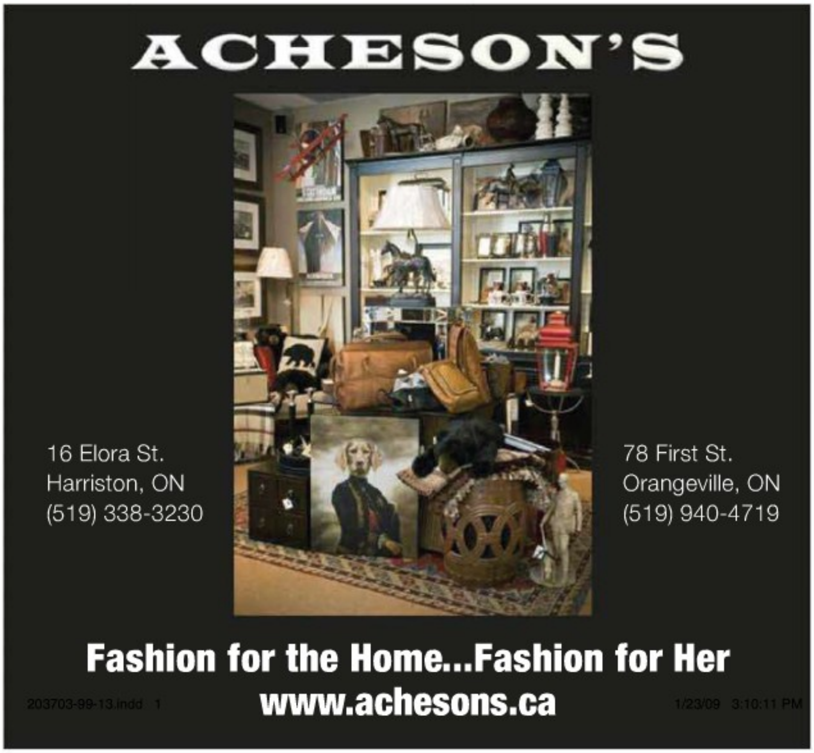



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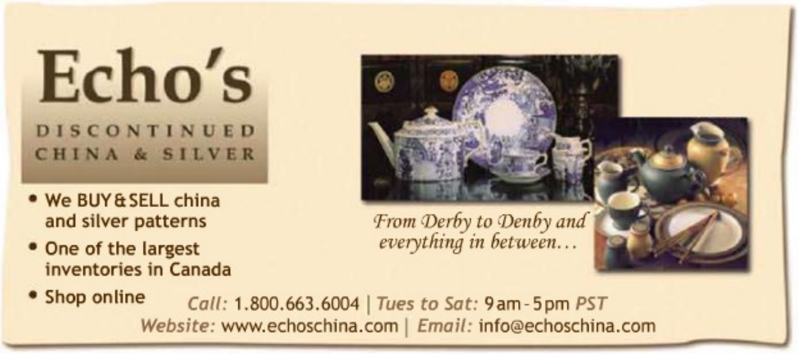

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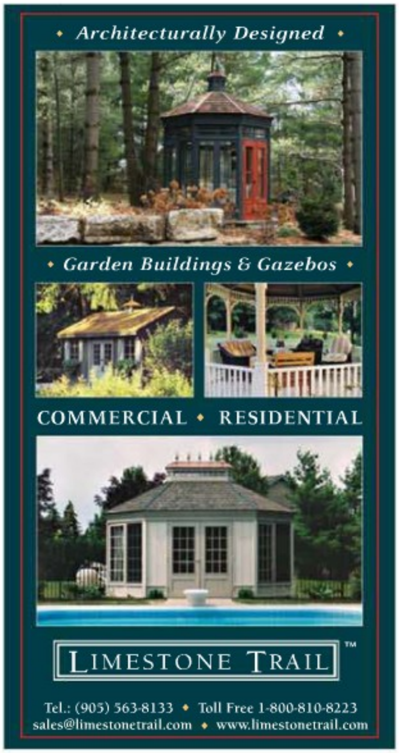

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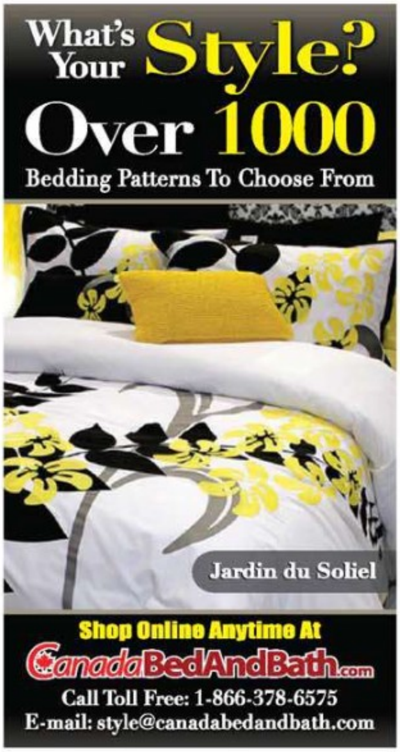

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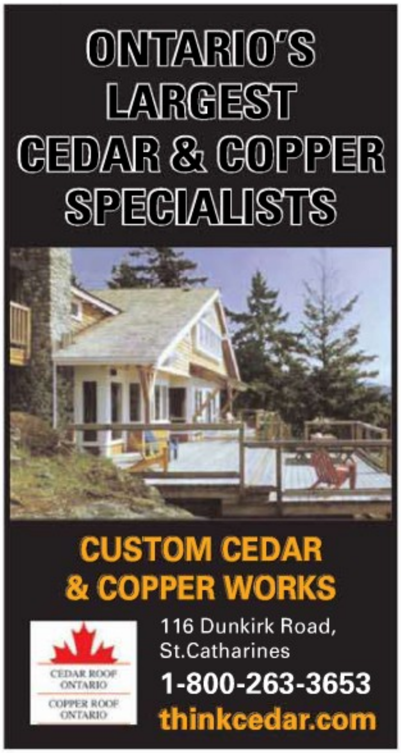

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Welcome to our cross-Canada shopping guide. **Coming soon to a city near you!**

ciao bella

Bella Moda's expansive new showroom focuses on classic-contemporary lines like Natuzzi, Ideal Sedia and Mobital. Being snapped up right now are clean-lined white lacquered tables and chairs from Portugal's Temahome.

Bella Moda Home Furnishings, 645 Century St., 204-783-4000; bellamodahome.com.



NEUTRAL ZONE

Owner Susan DeLuca keeps it simple at her Crescentwood neighbourhood boutique, **These Four Walls.** Furniture and housewares favour a black, white and grey palette, mixed with a few hits of seasonal colour and the textures of glass, wood and metallics. Look for intriguing vases from Vancouver's 18 Karat, custom furniture, and small pleasures like room fragrances from France's Lothantique.

VASES & WEAVE BOWL 18 Karat Spring Collection from $35 each, These Four Walls, 167 Stafford St., 204-452-5786.



IN OUR ROLODEX

CUSTOM DOORS & WINDOWS

WHO Michael Neufeld of **Yarrow Sash & Door**

BEST FOR Historical reproductions.

HIGHLIGHT Also specializes in restoration work involving old-school glazing and period glass.

THE 411 969 Fife St., 204-586-2794; 877-237-8650; yarrow.mb.ca.



winnipeg

Alison Gillmor is the city editor for *Western Living* and the pop culture columnist for the *Winnipeg Free Press*

midcentury moxie

Housed in a historic Exchange District warehouse, **Hoopers** offers a tightly edited selection of midcentury Scandinavian furniture and lighting. Owner Warren Hooper keeps the vintage vibe going with quirky accessories from local indie artisans and Taschen design books.

DRESSER 1970s rosewood $695, **POTTERY** Italian and German from $55 each, **ROCKER** Georg Jensen $1,295, Hoopers, 70 Albert St., 204-943-5240; shophoopers.ca.





ECLECTIC ELEGANCE

A recent expansion at **Kesay** sees the store's cool contemporary lines (Calligaris, Dellarobbia, Gus Modern) joined by traditional names like Thomasville and Century. Adaptable, go-anywhere pieces – ottomans, benches and stools – are in demand at this south-end standout, whether the look is classic or cutting edge.

BENCH Gus Modern walnut and chrome $999, Kesay, 693 Taylor Ave., 204-925-2226; kesay.ca. →

PHOTOGRAPHY BRIAN BURKE (HOOPERS)



GARDEN SHOWCASE

Hard-to-find heritage seeds are just one of the unique items at the **Royal Botanical Gardens shop,** along with one-of-a-kind fine art showcasing the work of local potters and photographers. Every purchase helps preserve this Canadian paradise.

Shop @ The Gardens, Royal Botanical Gardens, 680 Plains Rd. W., 905-527-1158, ext. 224; rbg.ca.



vintage charm

Leave behind the fast-paced, tech-saturated world for an afternoon of shabby-chic shopping at **Molly's Back Porch.** Bygone beauties include Victorian wardrobes, handsome walnut sideboards, Quebec harvest tables, plus cornices and other architectural finds. While you're there, try on a couple of the vintage hats.

Molly's Back Porch, 304 Ottawa St. N., 905-544-6686.



hamilton



Michele Steeves is the style editor at *The Hamilton Spectator*

MILLIONAIRE'S DEALS

If you have a healthy obsession for bargains, make **The Millionaire's Daughter** a regular destination. The 4,000 sq. ft. consignment shop features furniture and accessories (sofas and dining room sets fly out the door), and retro pieces that satisfy a groovy kind of love. Price tags on unsold items are reduced by 15% after two months, 10% thereafter. But take note: nothing sticks around longer than four months, say owners Maureen and John Whittaker. P.S. Be sure to ask Maureen about her father!

CABINET $800, The Millionaire's Daughter, 272 Ottawa St. N., 905-543-8000; themillionairesdaughter.com.

IN OUR ROLODEX

CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY

WHO Heather Coward of **Lulu & Lavigne Home Studio**

BEST FOR Colour consultations and an array of furniture and drapery fabrics. She even reupholsters boat interiors.

HIGHLIGHT Repurposing iconic Hudson's Bay blankets as stools or cushions.

THE 411 Lulu & Lavigne Home Studio, 228 Locke St. S., 905-522-2627; luluandlavigne.com.





the personal touch

For 30 years, superb customer service has been a hallmark of **The Keeping Room** in historic Dundas, west of Hamilton. Elegant recycled-glass bowls from Spain, Maxwell & Williams whiteware and damask cloths suit any table. Colourful Joyce Shelton pottery is always popular. Beware of K.C. (Kitchen Cat) – he's not to be disturbed! The personal shopping service is a bonus, especially for men.

BOWL Maxwell & Williams Lily $30, The Keeping Room, 6 Cross St., Dundas, Ont., 905-627-5880; thekeepingroom.ca. →

PHOTOGRAPHY SHERYL NADLER (CABINET)


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pleasures of home

Last year, **Home on Water St.** moved to new digs farther up the historic downtown street. Owners Donald Moores (left) and Peter Alyward create inviting vignettes with must-have kitchenwares, bath accessories, and a growing selection of lamps and mirrors. Sophie Conran for Portmeirion dinnerware is a staple on wedding registries. Update your entrance with a stylish mailbox – so popular they keep selling out!

Home on Water St., 156 Water St., 709-738-8228.





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Specializing in Asian-inspired statement pieces – including massive decorative hutches, ornate writing desks and hand-carved dining room sets you won't find anywhere else – **Galleria Enteak** greets customers with the warm smell of wood emanating from its handcrafted furniture. All pieces can be stained to the customer's specifications.

CUSTOM DESK from $1,250 Galleria Enteak, 16 Stavanger Dr., 709-753-8325; galleriaenteak.com.



st. john's

Alisha Morrissey is a St. John's-based freelance writer currently furnishing her home with mostly local finds

IN OUR ROLODEX

CUSTOM FRAMING

WHO Brothers Howard, Terry and Wayne Evans of **Decor Framing & Gallery**

BEST FOR Seeing the customer's vision and framing with the newest styles and techniques.

HIGHLIGHT A huge selection by local artists sold in-store and framed the way you like.

THE 411 Village Shopping Centre, 430 Topsail Rd., 709-368-4989; decorframing.com.



local treasures

Everything old is new again at the eclectic Pollyanna Art and Antique Gallery, a downtown fixture. Owner Dick Green collects antiques from Newfoundland homes – grandfather clocks, china cabinets, silver candelabras – and also displays a diverse gallery of local contemporary art.



Pollyanna Art and Antique Gallery, 214 Duckworth St., 709-726-0936.



renowned for quality

Browse the beautiful vignettes at **Hayward Interiors Plus,** and all at once you're transported to Grandma's sitting room or an explorer's den or a mod studio. The province's largest home furnishings store – a fixture for more than three decades – offers upholstery, accessories and custom drapery to suit all tastes. Comfy and smaller scale for condo living, the Aunt Jane chair is a top seller for owner Connie Hayward (left).

CHAIR Aunt Jane from $899, Hayward Interiors Plus, 203 Kenmount Rd., 709-726-3452; haywardinteriors.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY NANCY WILLIAMS (HOME ON WATER ST.), ALISHA MORRISSEY (PORTRAIT TOP LEFT, DESK, FRAMING), DICK GREEN (BOTTOM LEFT), JEREMY COLLINS (BOTTOM RIGHT)

s@h workbook

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spring clean FROM P 114
pulling it together

Style at Home design editor Christine Hanlon's palette of fresh greens and blues shows you how to inject spring colour into a neutral interior.



FABRIC 1 Ohana linen in Eau De Nil **2** Square Pegs cotton in Kiwi invudraperyco.com. **WALLPAPER 3** Silvergate Papers 833 farrow-ball.com. **PAINT 4** Dix Blue 82 **5** Pointing 2003 farrow-ball.com. **FABRIC 6** Circa linen in Citrine **7** Circa linen in Aqua Marine invudraperyco.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY FELIX WEDGWOOD

room we love FROM P 82
more palette pleasers

We've paired more shades of blue with accent colours (for accessories) to create three crisp combos that will enliven any room.



1 MAIN Ballroom Blue 24 farrow-ball.com; **ACCENT** Crushed Berries 2076-30 benjaminmoore.ca.



2 MAIN Pitch Blue 220 farrow-ball.com; **ACCENT** Pale Avocado 2146-40 benjaminmoore.ca.



3 MAIN Rumba P5015-34D para.com; **ACCENT** Raspberry Blush 2008-30 benjaminmoore.ca.

style news FROM P 40
turquoise trend

Evoking calm, cloudless skies and warm coastal waters, turquoise is huge this spring. Here are three more ways to introduce it into your home.



TABLE LAMP Mod Aqua 14½" ceramic with white cotton shade $60 crateandbarrel.ca.



BOWL Dune 6" x 11½" resin $46 Torre & Tagus 800-423-4417.

PHOTOGRAPHY CRATE AND BARREL (TABLE LAMP)



BENCH King 48" x 19" x 18" hand-carved beech from $725 thecrossdesign.com. →

eco makeover FROM P 100

striped wall paint project

To paint this vibrant striped wall, you need patience, time and preferably a second pair of hands, says Samantha Pynn.

1 On white wall, use 2" painter's tape to block out white stripes that will separate each colour. Taped strips should be 3" apart.

2 As you go, check each taped strip with level to make sure it's straight. Using smoothing tool, press any wrinkles out of tape to ensure no paint bleeds through edges.

3 Alternating colours (in this case, red, blue, greige), paint stripes from top to bottom of wall.

4 Let dry; remove tape. →



COLOURS USED



Lyons Red CC-68
benjaminmoore.ca

Polar Sky CC-790
benjaminmoore.ca

Gray Mist CC-80
benjaminmoore.ca

Cloud White CC-40
(background)
benjaminmoore.ca

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style news FROM P 30
instant arrangements

Easy floral ideas from news editor Brett Walther, as seen on Citytv's *CityLine*.


Watch Brett on *CityLine* cityline.ca.

PHOTOGRAPHY CITYLINE.CA

- Invest in **vessels** that do the arran in or you, like a tulipière.
- Use a **tray or cloche** to unify bitsy mix-and-match bud vases.
- Clip **tree and shrub boughs** from your backyard. Cylinder vases are ideal for tall twiggy arrangements.
- Snip glossy leaves from your tropical houseplants. **Foliage** is a refreshing alternative to blossoms.
- Place one or two **leftover blooms** from a mixed arrangement in bud vases. Scatter them around the house or display together for a high-impact grouping.

high+low FROM P 60
more statement chairs

Add a burst of colour and cheerful floral pattern to any room with one of these blooming beauties.



Chiang Mai bergère $2,250 thecrossdesign.com.



Cambridge $280 pier1.ca.



Astrid $1,598 anthropologie.com. →


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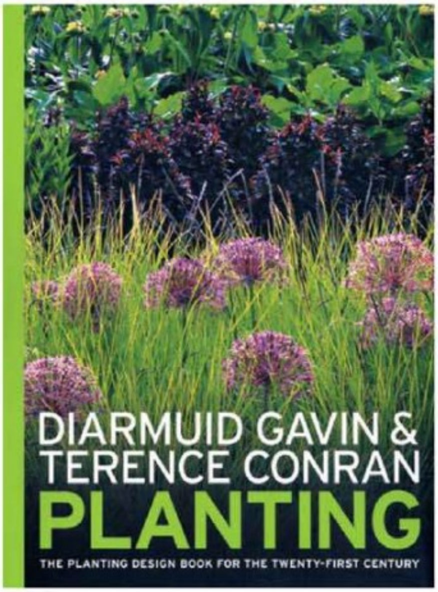
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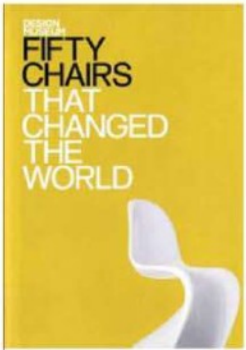
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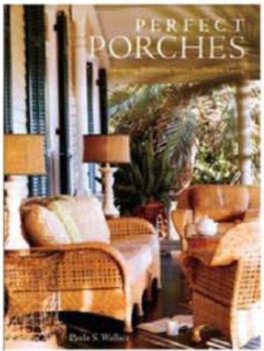
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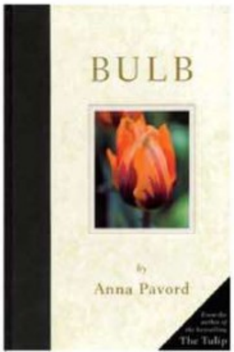
home library
on our must-read list



PLANTING by Diarmuid Gavin & Terence Conran, $75, Conran, hardcover. *The* guide to creating an outdoor oasis, whether you want a practical kitchen garden or a little patch of green. Brit designer Conran teams up with Gavin (both winners of several RHS Chelsea Flower Show medals) to show you how.







FIFTY CHAIRS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD, Design Museum, $26, Conran, hardcover. These stylish seats have had a major impact on design, from Thonet's 1859 Side Chair No. 14 all the way to Konstantin Grcic's 2003 Chair_One.

PERFECT PORCHES by Paula S. Wallace, $43, Potter, hardcover. You don't need to have a porch to enjoy this inspiring tour of American porches that range from retro kitschy and ultramodern sleek to elegant and truly quirky (dragon boat porch swing, anyone?).

BULB by Anna Pavord, $50, Mitchell Beazley, hardcover. You'll feel as if spring has sprung with this well-organized illustrated guide. Includes standard bulbs like tulips and hyacinths, plus unusual specimens such as *Arisaema* (exotic looking) and *Scadoxus* (psychedelic!). →

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WORDS JENN HOULIHAN


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food news **FROM P 36**

plum perfect

More kitchenwares in this eye-catching *couleur du jour.*



1 TAJINE Emile Henry in Fig $180 Browne & Co. 866-306-3672. **2 PEPPER MILL** Mark McEwan by Fresco 10" in Aubergine $40 sears.ca. **3 WING CORKSCREW** in purple $18 trudeau.ca. @

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Hilary Farr - Host of "Love It or List It" on W Network



Every week on Love It or List It, I show homeowners that no matter how worn-out your home may feel a little effort can transform it into a castle you'll love. And stay within your budget. Here are few simple tips that'll help you look at your space in a whole new light:

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THE WISHBONE CHAIR



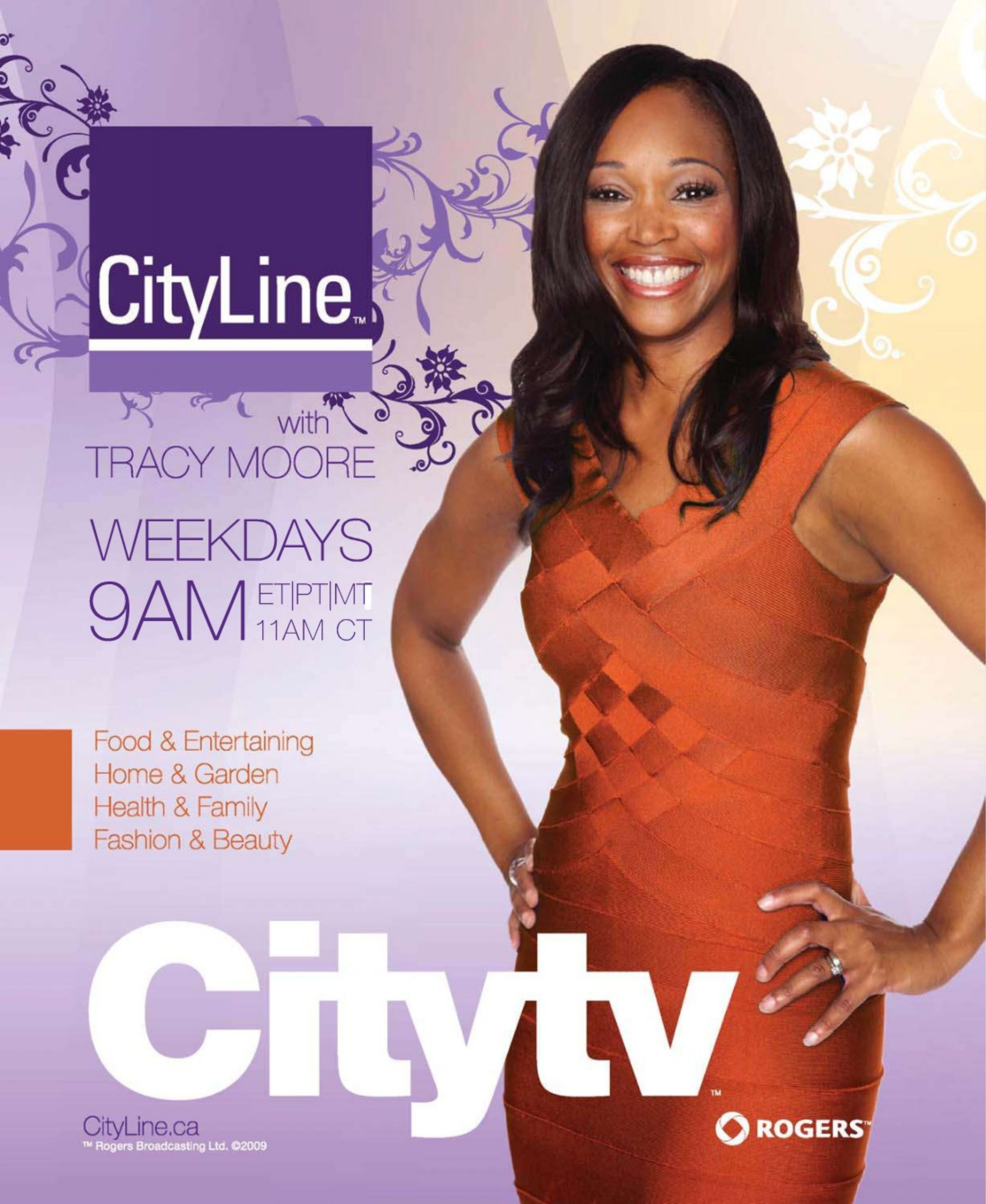
A WISH MADE BLUE!

It's the 60th anniversary of Danish designer Hans J. Wegner's iconic Wishbone chair, and manufacturer Carl Hansen & Son is marking it with colour – 12, to be exact. In pairing the Scandinavian simplicity of Wegner's design with a dozen splashy shades (four blues, four greens and a surprise third set of hues to round out 2010), the celebratory update elevates the understated classic to spotlight stealer.

CHAIR CH24 Wishbone (wood frame with handwoven paper cord seat) approx. $1,150 carlhansen.com.

WORDS SARA CATION

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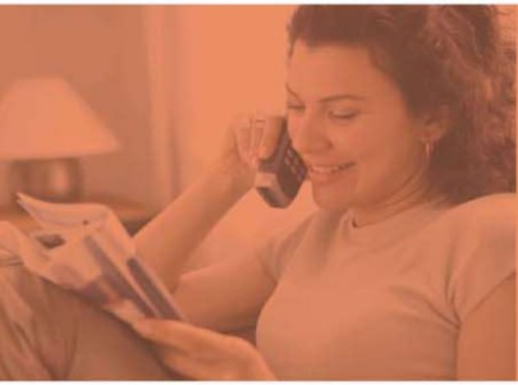
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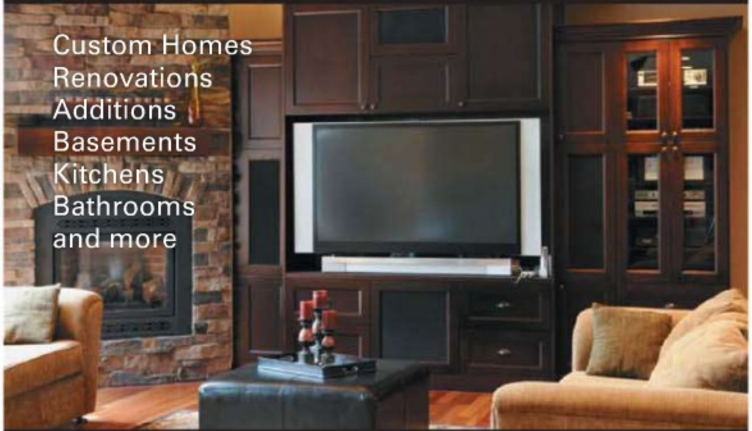
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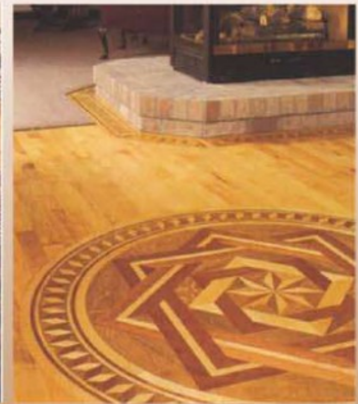
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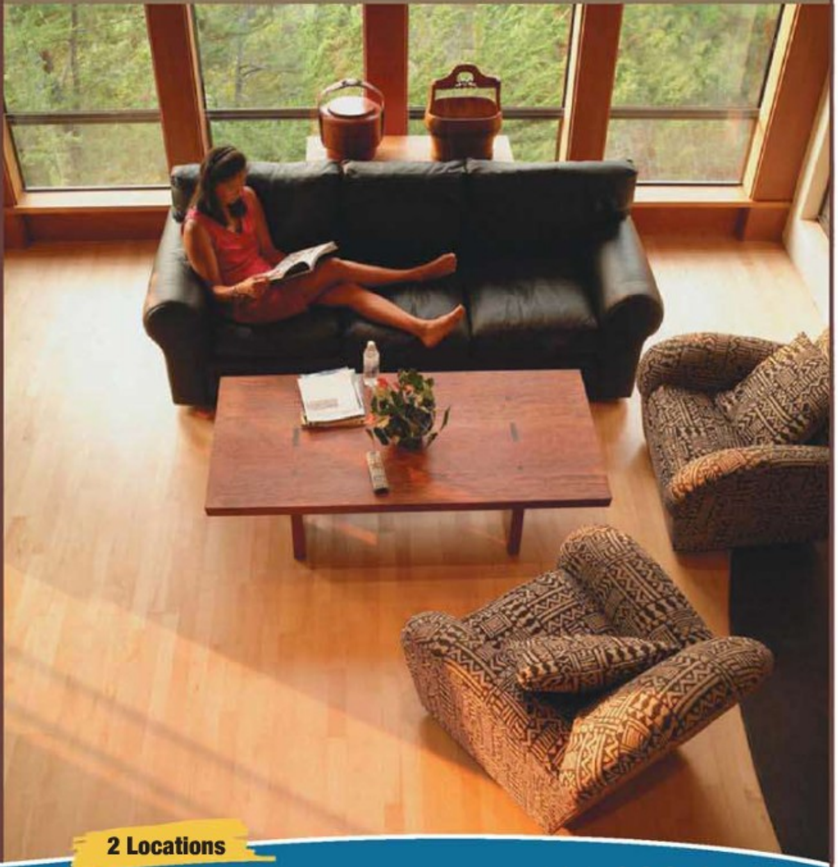
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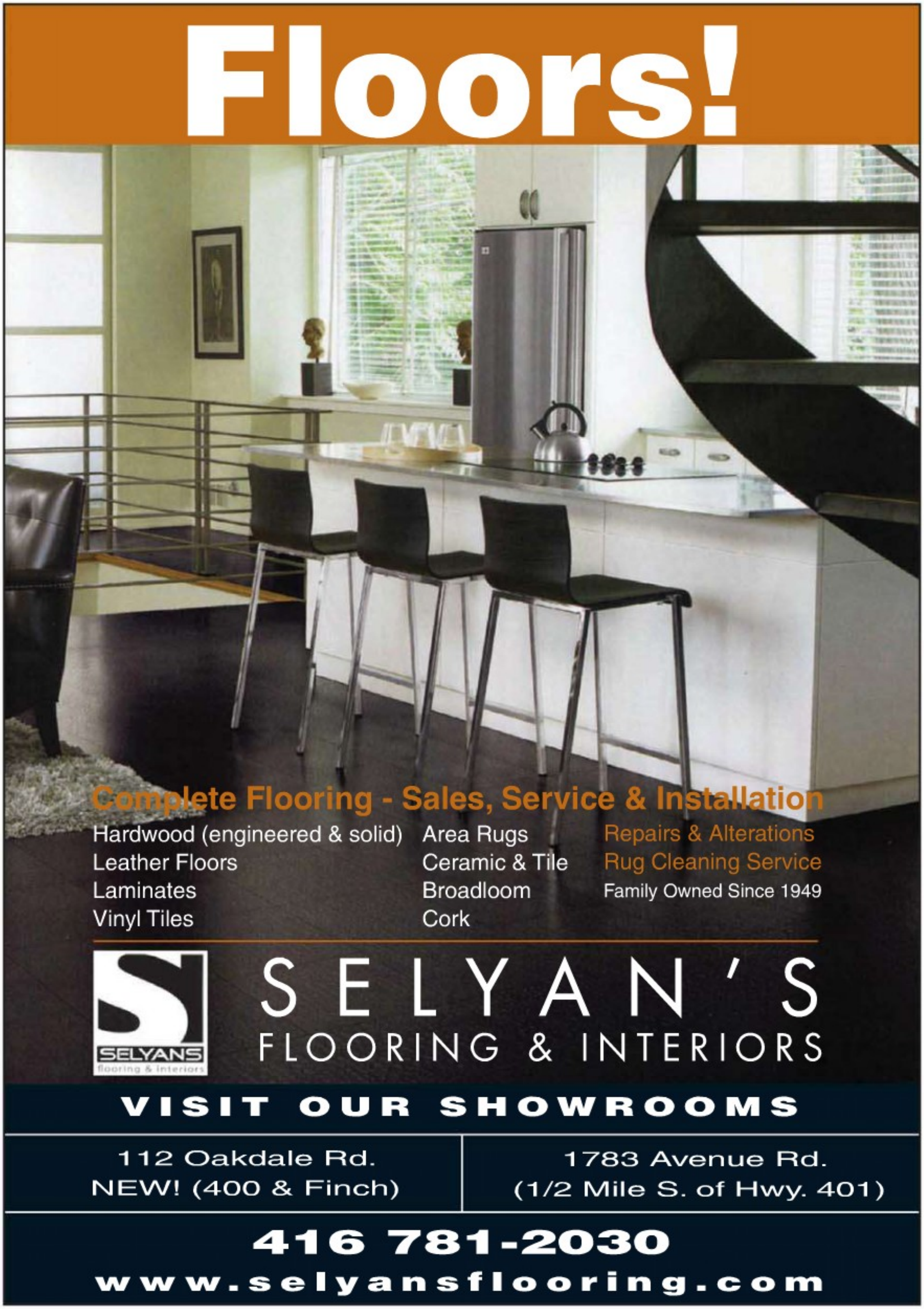
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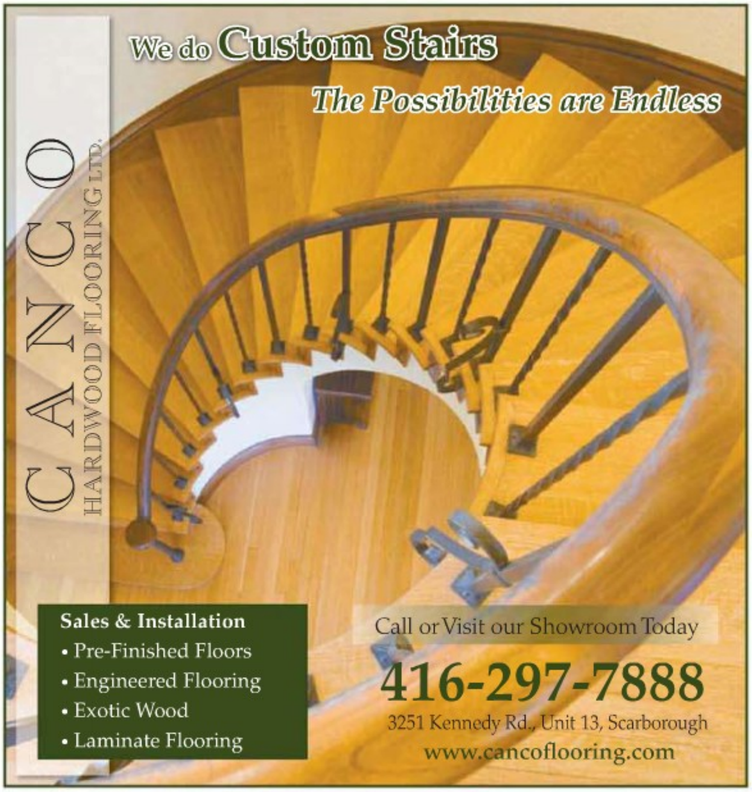

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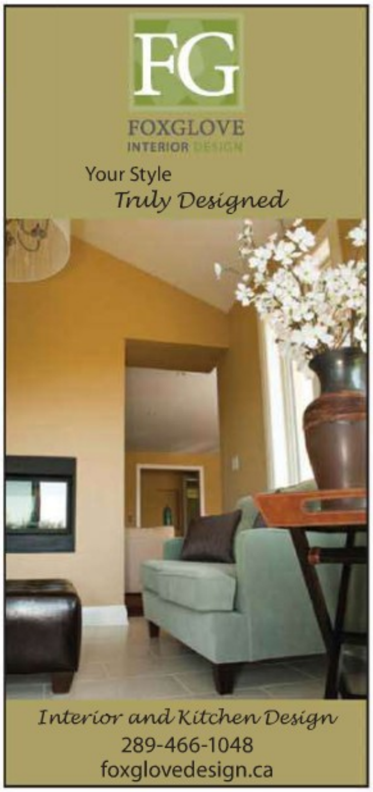




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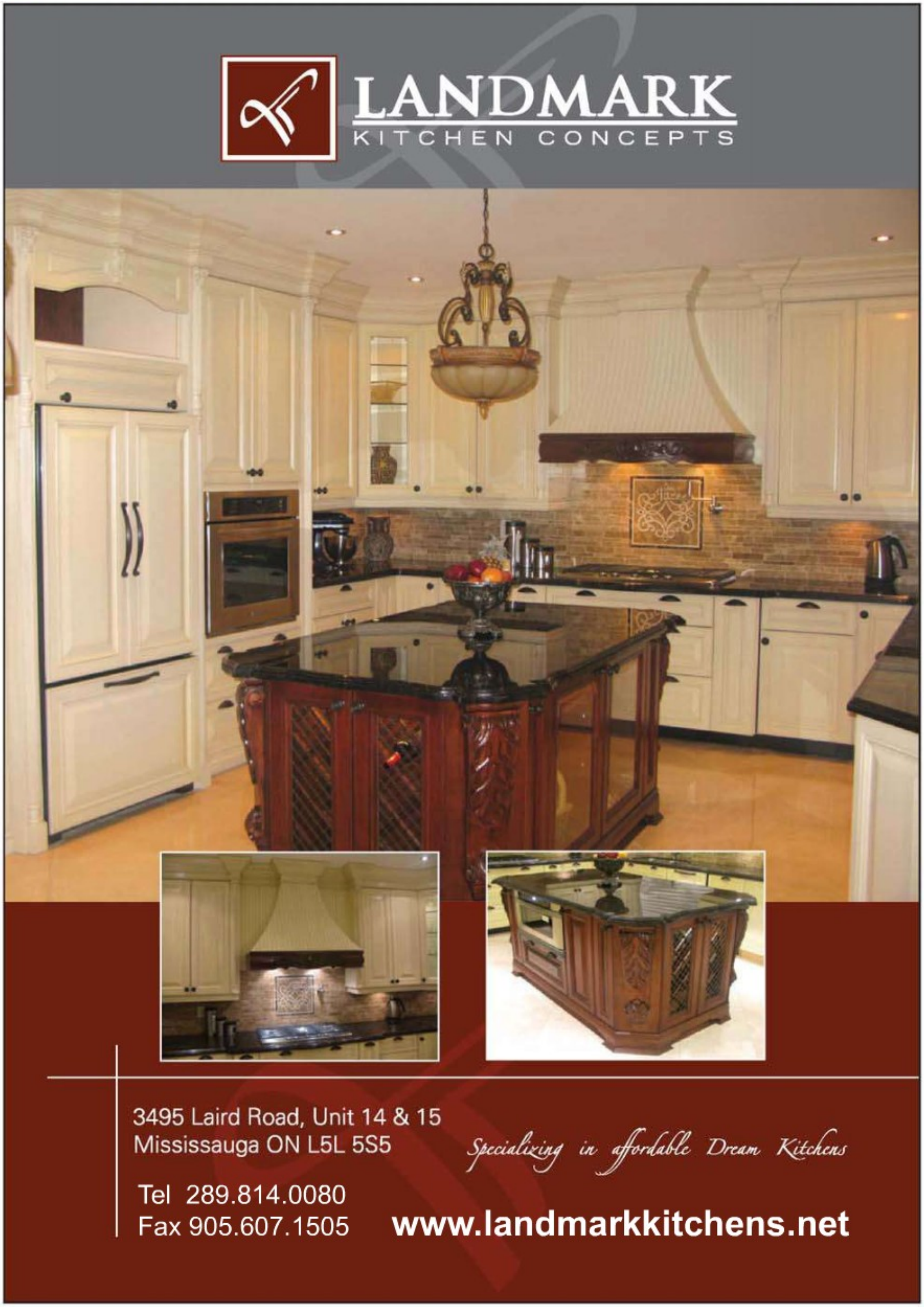











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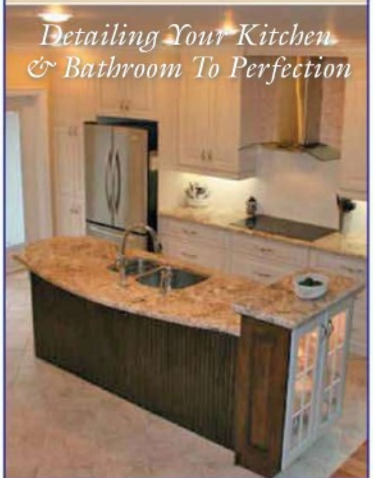
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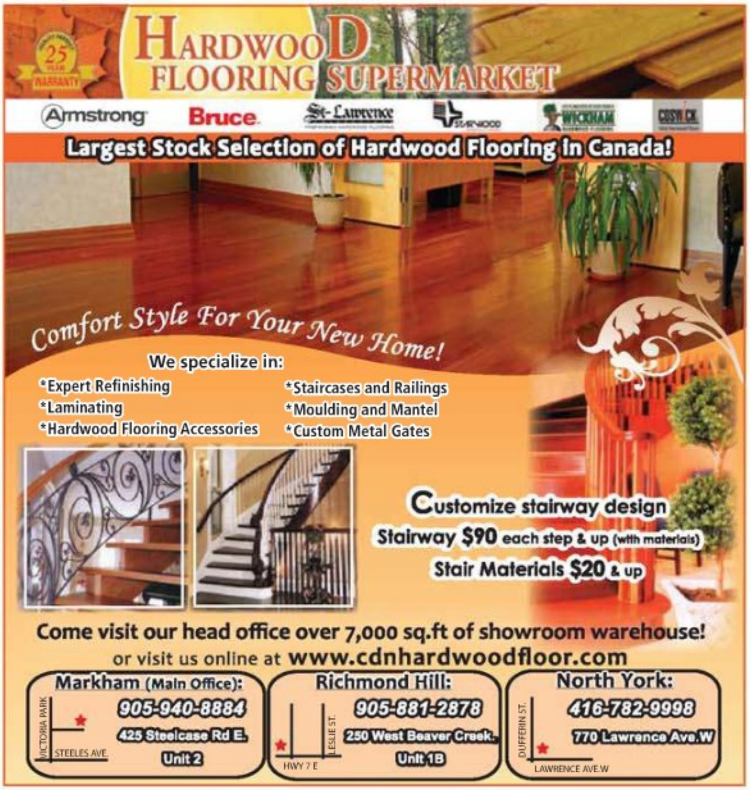

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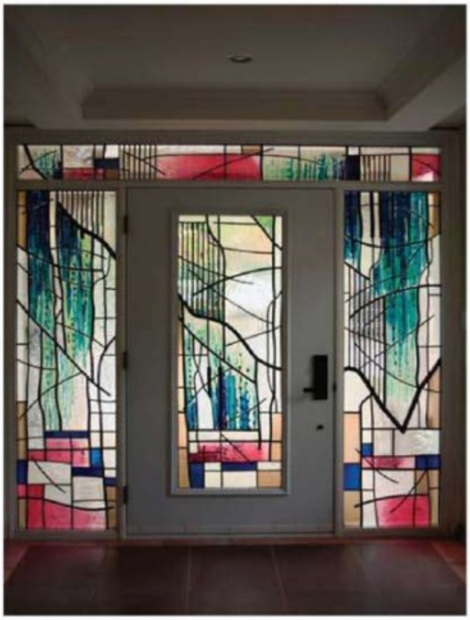
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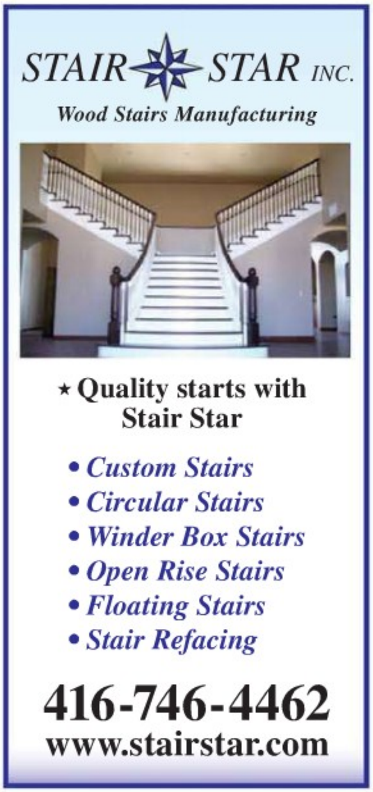
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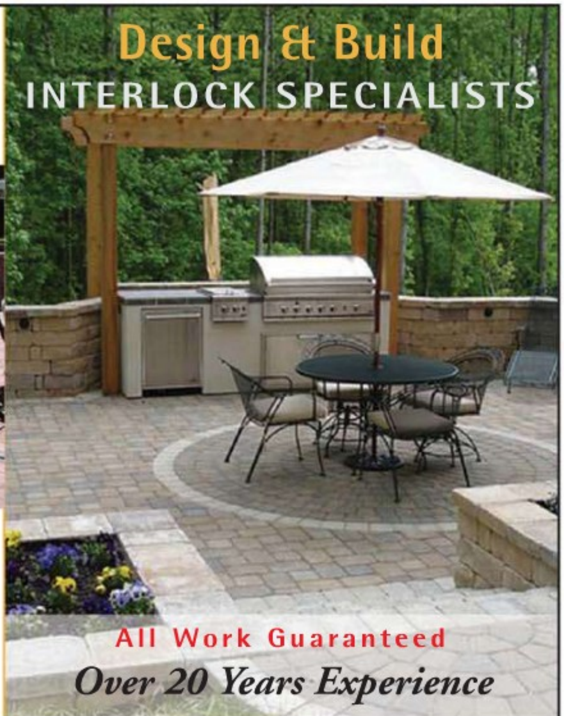
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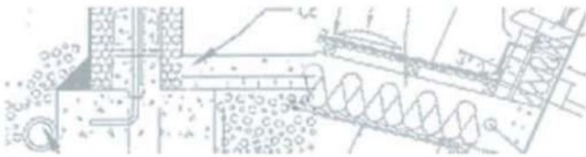
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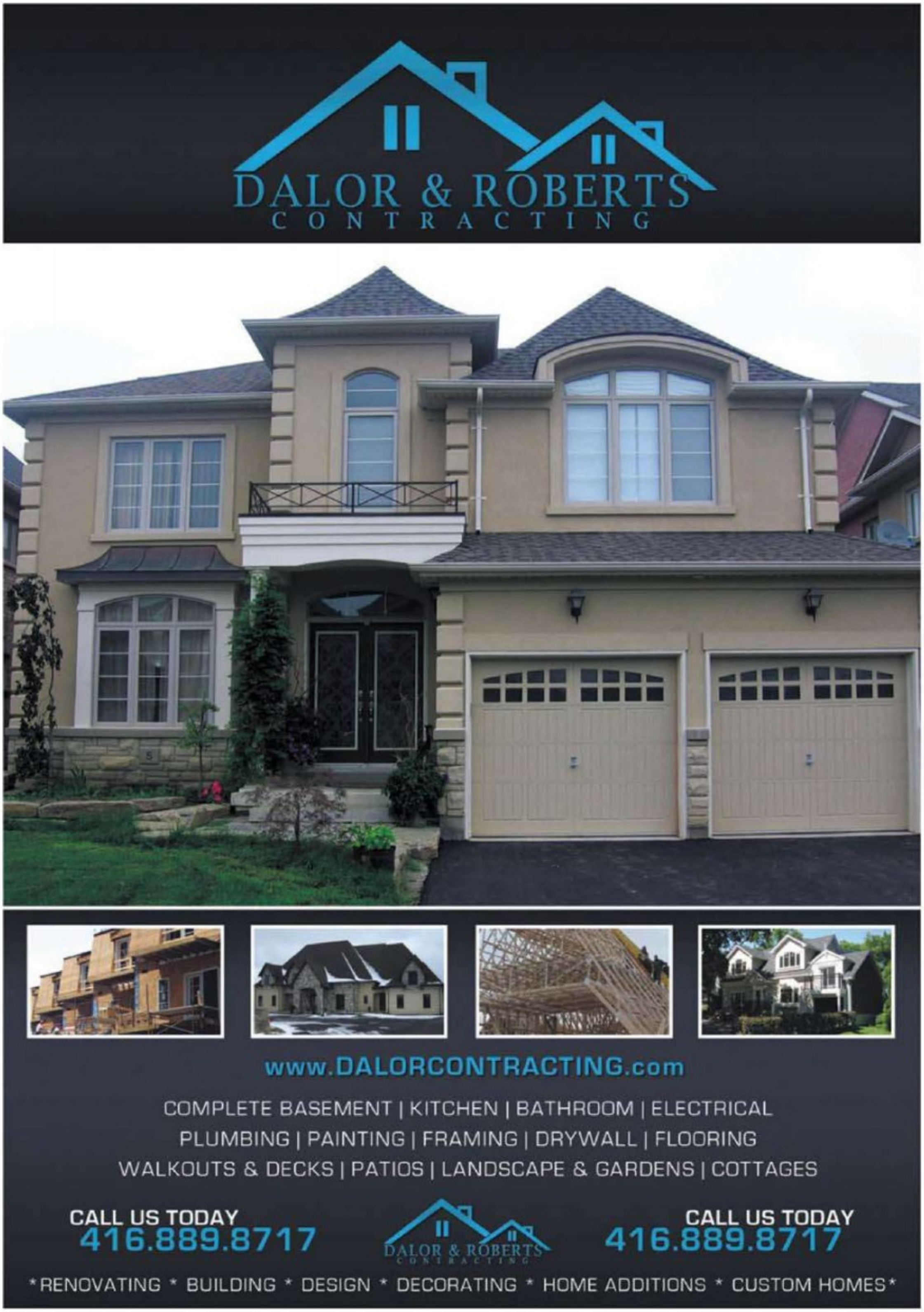
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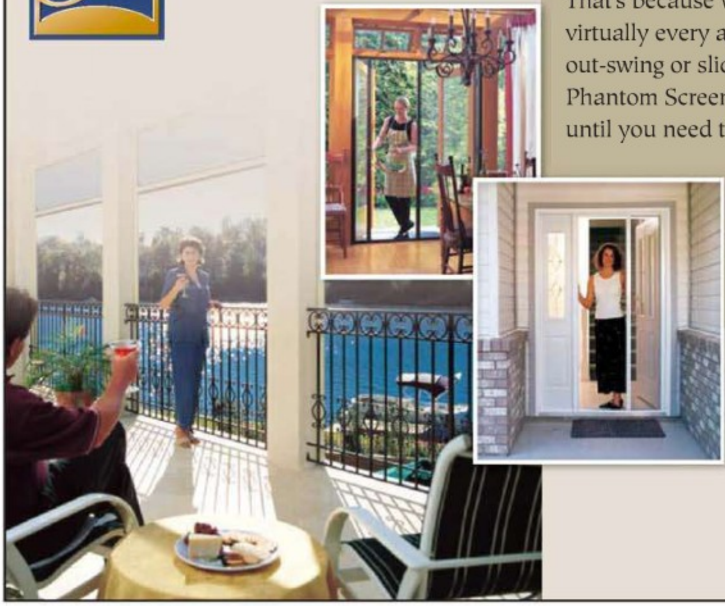
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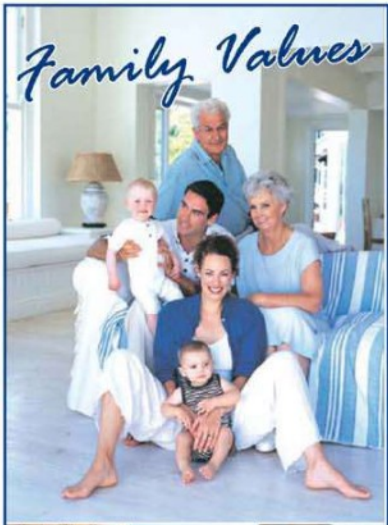
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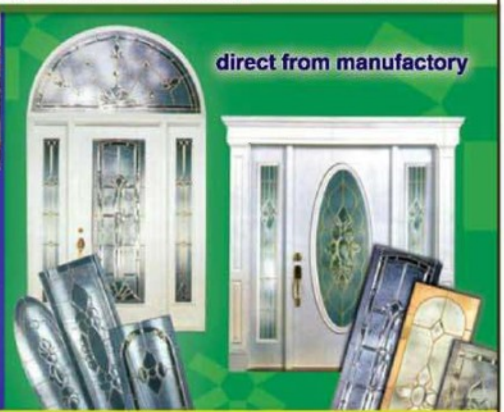
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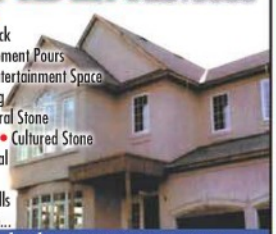
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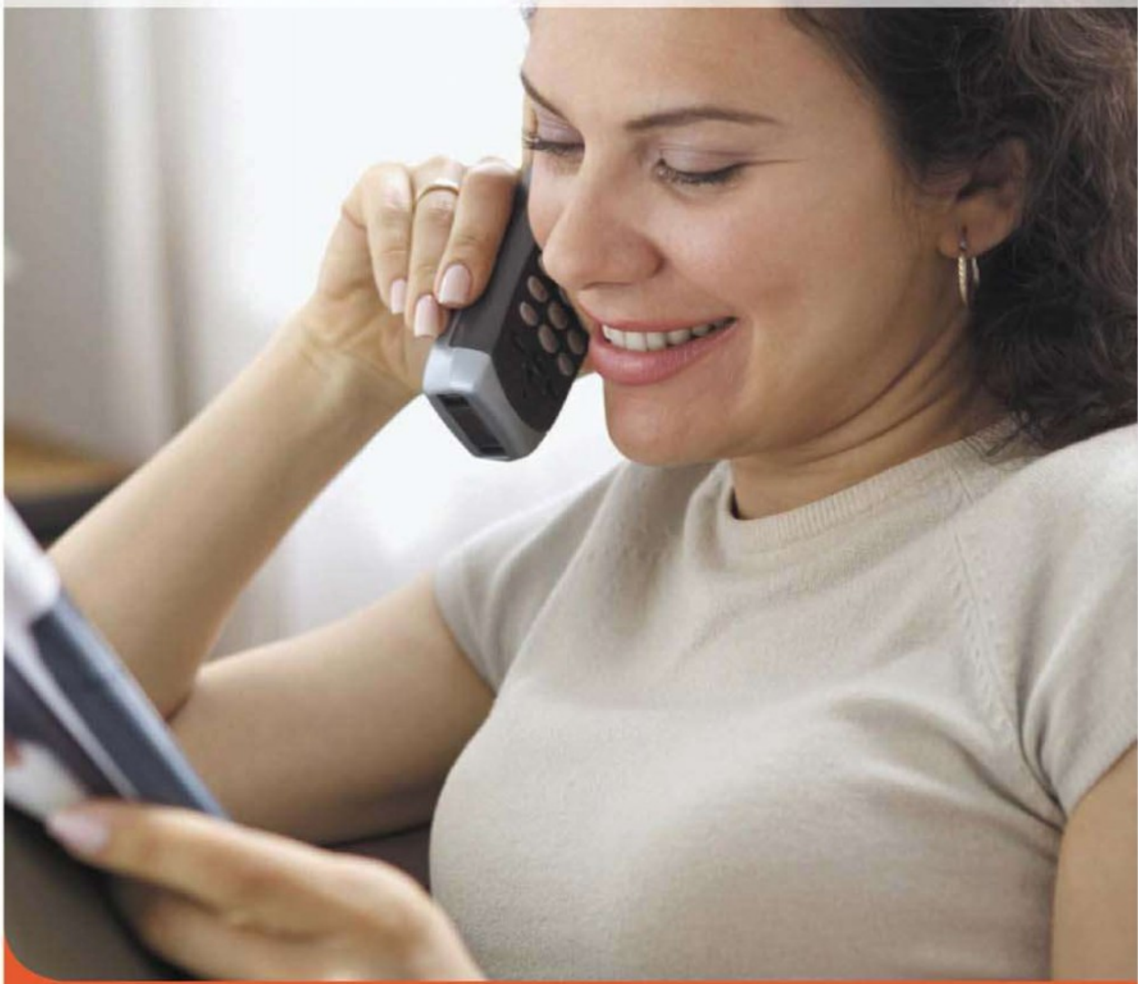

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